

A GENERATIVE PHONOLOGY OF AZERBAIJANI

By

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To my Mother

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This study, consisting of five chapters and a summary, presents a generative phonology of the Tabriz dialect of Azerbaijani. The first chapter sketches Azerbaijani among Turkic languages, and briefly refers to the literary dialect of the Northern Azerbaijan, styles of speech, and the Tabriz dialect. The second chapter examines six previous works on Azerbaijani phonology and finds a reanalysis of the [+ high] stops and affricates necessary. The third chapter presents an argument for positing a pair of velar stops and deriving the palatal stops from them by rule. This chapter also briefly argues for one underlying segment inventory for all Azerbaijani dialects. Consequently, it argues that despite phonetic difference the dental affricates and alveopalatal retroflex affricates in some dialects of Azerbaijani (as in the Tabriz dialect), and the alveopalatal affricates and palatal stops in some other dialects (as in the Baku dialect) come from the same underlying segments, i.e., from the alveopalatal affricates and velar stops. The fourth chapter contains the majority of the phonological rules in this study. Chapters two, three and five, too, contain some of the rules.

Some of the rules are apparently formulated for the first time, and those that appear also in traditional analyses, are formulated with regard to the general principles of generative phonology. The fifth chapter viewing nativization as the inconspicuous occurrence of a loanword in a speech style of a borrowing language, sketches nativization in Azerbaijani. Here it is suggested that, in nativization, in addition to the general rules of Azerbaijani phonology and the rules of nativization, which like the general rules apply to the underlying representations, there are also the rules that replace the unfamiliar foreign segments with native approximations in the lexical entries. It is observed that there is almost always a direct relationship between the number of the rules and the degree of nativization. Finally, it is suggested that nativization affects also the borrowing language.



## CHAPTER I

### THE POSITION OF AZERBAIJANI AMONG TURKIC LANGUAGES

#### Introduction

1.1. Azerbaijan is a geographical area occupying a province of Persia to the south and a republic of the Soviet Union to the north of the Aras river. In this dissertation we are concerned with the language of Azerbaijan, specifically its phonology.

1.2. Azerbaijani is a new name for the Turkic language spoken in Azerbaijan and nearby lands<sup>1</sup> since centuries ago. In Southern Azerbaijan it is largely a spoken language and occasionally the language of poetry, whereas in Northern Azerbaijan it is the official language of the republic. Despite the fact that for centuries it has been called Türki in Persia and Azerbaijan, the name Azerbaijani, particularly in linguistic discussions is preferable because Turki, formally referring to the Eastern Turkic, is ambiguous. Another ambiguous name used for Azerbaijani is Azeri which is the name of an Iranian language replaced by our Turkic Azerbaijani. Other names used for Azerbaijani have been Türk dili 'the Turkic language', Türkchä 'Turkic', Azerbaijan Türkchäsi 'Azerbaijani Turkish', Azeri Türkchäsi 'Azeri Turkish', and even 'the Caucasian Tatar Language' (Dämirchizadä 1972:3).

1.3. In this study we shall use the name Azerbaijani, for however else it is named 'for centuries this language has been the language of the heart and the mould of the thought and feeling of [the people of Azerbaijan]' (Färzanä 1965:2), and it remains 'the language of the heart,

street, and home for the people of Azerbaijan' (Kārāng 1961: Introduction).<sup>2</sup>

1.4. Azerbaijani is spoken by more than seven million people in Southern and Northern Azerbaijan. Smaller groups, too, in the Middle and Near East speak dialects of Azerbaijani. As for its distribution in Persia, outside Azerbaijan, 'Turkic minorities speaking an Āzarb dialect [are] found practically in all major cities' (Menges 1951:278).

1.5. An attempt to properly locate Azerbaijani in time and place among the Turkic languages would require an independent study. But in a brief introduction of the kind presented here it may be said that when Bulgar-Chuvash and Yakut, the Turkic languages of the Northwestern and Northeastern extremities of the Turkic world, respectively, are excluded (because they have early branched out and stayed away from the general confluence shared by the rest of the Turkic languages), we may start with the assumption that prior to about the ninth century the Turkic world shared an almost common Turkic of which the Yenisei and Orkhon inscriptions of the seventh to the eighth centuries (Jensen 1969:422) are later records. We may call this Old Turkic.

1.6. The period of the ninth to the thirteenth centuries is the time when within the common Old Turkic there developed characteristics which justify major subdivisions, i.e., we find divisions like Southeastern or Karluk, Northwestern or Kipchak, and Central or Oghuz. The Oghuz group has a really central position because it contains characteristics from both the Southeastern and the Northwestern, i.e., the Karluk group and the Kipchak Turkic.

1.7. Comprehensive systems of classifications of Turkic languages have been worked out by renowned Turkologists. In two of the broadest

of these classifications Azerbaijani can be seen as (1) an Eastern Turkic, or (2) a Southwestern Turkic dialect.

1.8. (1) Azerbaijani is an Eastern Turkic dialect if Turkic languages are divided into a Western group comprising ancient Volga Bulgar and modern Chuvash, and an Eastern group embracing all other Turkic languages. This classification proposed by Samoylovich and amended by Räsänen (Krader 1966:33) is based on a few simple sound features.

1.9. Whereas Western Turkic languages have final -r (e.g., Bulgar [taxar] 'nine'), Eastern Turkic languages have final -z (e.g., Oghuz [toguz] 'nine'). The -z group is further divided on the basis of having intervocalic d (e.g., medieval Kirgiz and medieval Uyghur [adak] 'foot') or y (e.g., medieval Kipchak, Oghuz [ajak] 'foot'). And the y languages are divided into those with prevocalic g- (e.g., Kazan Tatar, Kazakh [Kalgan] 'remaining') and those without this prevocalic g- (e.g., Oghuz [Kalan] 'remaining') (Krader 1966:33).

1.10. (2) Azerbaijani is a Southwestern Turkic language if classification is based on geographical location and the genetic ties which relate each modern Turkic language to a corresponding classical Turkic language. According to this classification, as already hinted (when two minor categories of Bulgar and Chuvash at the extreme West, and Yakut at the extreme Northeast of the Turkic world are excluded because of their more archaic characteristics), most of the Turkic languages fall into four major categories: (a) Southwestern or Oghuz, (b) Southeastern or Chagatay (medieval Uyghur), (c) Northwestern (medieval Kipchak), (d) Northeastern (Krader 1966:35-49; Dilâçar 1964:28-117; Halasi-Kun 1962: 13-18).

1.11. Southwestern Oghuz Turkic, which came to the Near and

Middle East during the eleventh and twelfth centuries, itself can be viewed in two groups: the western and the eastern. The western dialect of the Southwestern Oghuz Turkic was spoken in Osmanli territory, i.e., west Anatolia, and the eastern dialect of the Southwestern Oghuz Turkic was spoken in east Anatolia and Azerbaijan. It is the latter dialect which, exposed to the influence of non-Oghuz Turkic dialects, particularly Northern and Eastern Turkic languages, and especially the Kipchak Turkic and some Mongolian elements, can be considered the earliest stage of Azerbaijani (Ergin 1958; Berengian 1965:VIII-IX). And it is on the basis of this mixed origin that Azerbaijani has acquired a central position among modern Turkic languages.

1.12. Apart from the heritage of Old Turkic literature which Azerbaijani shares with other Turkic languages, and in addition to its classics 'Azerbaijani possesses one of the richest among the greatest folkloric literatures whose influence can clearly be seen among the neighboring peoples' (Färzanä 1965:2)<sup>3</sup>.

1.13. In this study we are concerned with the pronunciation of one Azerbaijani dialect, i.e., the Tabriz dialect, to be more specific the pronunciation of the present writer. Tabriz is the largest city in Southern Azerbaijan with a population about 465,000. In the process of describing Tabriz speech there may be references to other dialects of Azerbaijani, especially the literary dialect of Azerbaijani in Northern Azerbaijan. There may also be references to the styles of pronunciation, such as 'formal', 'informal' and 'normal'.

1.14. The literary pronunciation of Azerbaijani in Northern Azerbaijan is derived from four main sources discussed in the paragraphs (a) through (d):

(a) One of the sources determining the literary pronunciation is the pronunciation of Azerbaijani in different region centers, such as Nakhchivan, Shusha, Gänjä, Shäki, Shamakhı, Baku, Länkaran.

(b) Another source employed in the formation of the literary pronunciation is the pronunciation developed in the capital, i.e., Baku as a result of the interaction among different dialects of Azerbaijani.

(c) A third source influencing the formation of the literary pronunciation is the contemporary written Azerbaijani which, except for the changes of pronunciation predictable by rules, is taken as a model for the literary pronunciation of Azerbaijani. E.g., the written form of the suffixes, the great majority of the monosyllabic words, and the early nativized loans are pronounced as they are written. It seems possible to infer from Dämirchizadä's (1972:180-4) observation that in the literary pronunciation the word is pronounced as written except when a segment or some segments have a different realization owing to the rules governing the literary pronunciation, e.g., whereas the words äl [æ1] 'hand', söz [söz] 'word', qayda [qajda] </gäʔida / < Arabic qāṣida 'rule' etc. are pronounced as written, the words otag [otax] 'room', murad [murat] </murād / < Arabic murād 'aim', etc., are pronounced with their final segment having undergone the rule of devoicing ([murat]), and spirantization and devoicing ([otax]) which operate in many Azerbaijani dialects including the literary pronunciation.

(d) The fourth source of the derivation of the literary pronunciation is the pronunciation of the nonnativized or less nativized loan-words, e.g., the initial unstressed o in the words sovet [savet] 'council' and ko1xoz [kalxoz] 'collective farm' occur in the literary pronunciation of Northern Azerbaijan as [a] as in Russian; and the k in a series of loans is realized in the literary pronunciation as a velar [k], as it is in the source language, here Russian, e.g., leksika [leksika]

'vocabulary', fonetika [fanetika] 'phonetics', etc. Besides, the written form of some loans found in Azerbaijani have a partially nativized spelling pronunciation, e.g., müasir [muʔāsir] </muʔāsir/ Arabic muṣāṣir 'contemporary', ävam 'illiterate' (also avam [avam]) </æväm/ < Arabic ṣawām.

1.15. As for the different styles of pronunciation, it is convenient to adopt R. I. Avanesov's (Dämirchizadä 1972:174-5) classification for the literary pronunciation of Russian. According to this classification, pronunciation can be in

- (a) The Book style: comprising poetic, academic, and oratorical styles.
- (b) The Conversational style: comprising serious and free styles.
- (c) The Popular Speech style: consisting mainly of 'careless speech'.

1.16. Dämirchizadä himself speaks of two styles, the 'full style', and the 'free style'. By the 'full style' he intends 'the serious, formal, correct, exact, persuasive, and effective style' (Dämirchizadä 1972: 177), and by the 'free style' he seems to mean a style with the characteristics of both the 'conversational style' and the 'popular speech style' of Avanesov's classification. Dämirchizadä, however, clarifies that no conversation consists solely of one style (Dämirchizadä 1972: 175-80).

1.17. While on the whole we agree with Dämirchizadä, it seems that with regard to the number of the rules involved in their derivation, some words (in whose derivation fewer rules have operated) belong to the 'conversational style' and some words (in whose derivation more rules have operated) belong to the 'Popular Speech style'. (See the

illustrative examples in 1.18 below.) Consequently it appears that a reinterpretation of Avanesov's classification can offer a more suitable classification of the styles of pronunciation for all Azerbaijani dialects, including the Tabriz dialect. Accordingly, the pronunciation of Azerbaijani dialects may roughly be classified into

(a) The formal style, where the phonetic form is identical with or minimally different from the underlying representation, e.g., [jogurt] </jogurd/ yogurd 'yogurt', [sā7æt] </sā7æt/ <Arabic sāsat<sup>4</sup> 'time, timepiece', [rāhæt] </rāhæt/ <Arabic rāhat 'comfortable'.

(b) The informal style, where the phonetic form is almost always maximally different from the underlying representation, e.g., [jout] </jogurd/ yogurd 'yogurt', [sahat]<sup>5</sup> </sā7æt/ <Arabic sāsat 'time, timepiece', [raat] /rāhæt/ <Arabic rāhat 'comfortable'.

(c) The normal style, where the difference between the phonetic form and the underlying representation is neither minimal nor maximal, e.g., [jourt] </jogurd/ yogurd 'yogurt', [saat] </sā7æt/ <Arabic sāsat 'time, timepiece', [rahat] </rāhæt/ Arabic rāhat 'comfortable'.

1.18. As already mentioned (see 1.17 above), a triple classification is justified for the convenience it affords to the description of a pronunciation style in terms of the number of the phonological rules involved in a particular derivation. E.g., the pronunciation of yogurd 'yogurt' in the three styles of pronunciation may have the following derivations:

|           |          |          |          |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
|           | /jogurd/ | /jogurd/ | /jogurd/ |
| g → g/v-  | g        | ø        | ø        |
| g → ø/v-v | _____    | _____    | _____    |
| d → t/-#  | t        | t        | t        |
| r → ø/-d  | _____    | _____    | _____    |
|           | [jogurt] | [jourt]  | [jout]   |

Often all the three styles have the same pronunciation, e.g., [üz] </üz/ üz 'face', [gæ læm] </gæ læm/ <Arabic qalam 'pen', etc. Or the pronunciation is identical at least for two of the three styles, e.g., while the word for 'heart' üräk is [üræ <sup>f</sup>š] </üræk/ in formal style, it is [üræ x̣] in both the normal and informal styles.

1.19. As for the Tabriz dialect, it is 'understood all over Persian Azerbaijan and in most of Soviet Azerbaijan' (Fraenkel 1961:6). The Tabriz dialect is regarded as the literary dialect of Southern Azerbaijan. According to Dilâçar (1950:76) in Persian Azerbaijan 'the main literary dialect is the dialect of Tabriz.' Concerning Azerbaijani Dilâçar (1964:114) also observes that in Persian Azerbaijan 'the main written dialect is that of Tabriz.'

1.20. Tabriz speech, however, has some peculiarities which render it somewhat different from the literary dialect of Northern Azerbaijan with its eclectic regularities. One readily noticeable difference between the pronunciation of the Tabriz dialect and that of the Northern literary dialect is in the realization of the alveopalatal affricates /č ʃ/ and the palatal stops [k̟ ɡ̟] (derived from the velar stops /k g/ by the rule of the realization of the velar stops (RVS) (3.2.11)). Whereas in the Northern literary dialect the underlying alveopalatal affricates and the palatal stops appear at the phonetic level, i.e., as [č ʃ] and [k̟ ɡ̟], in the Tabriz dialect the /č ʃ/ and [k̟ ɡ̟] surface as the dental affricates [c ʒ] and the alveopalatal retroflex affricates [č̣ ʃ̣].

With regard to the peculiarities of Tabriz speech, Dilâçar (1964: 114-5) observes: 'In many localities especially in Maragha, Azerbaijani can be found with neat and old features.' The important point under-



lying this observation is the fact that in Tabriz speech there are instances of the partial observance or the nonobservance of vowel harmony<sup>6</sup>, e.g., the final vowel of a word need not harmonize with the vowels of the preceding syllables in backness or roundness, e.g., [jazdi] 'wrote', [süri] 'flock', [ælin] 'thy hand' which are [jazdi], [sürü], and [ælin] in literary style; similarly the infinitive suffix [max], the first person plural marker of the imperative mood [ax], the future marker [ a cax], and the comparative marker [rax] will have back vowels even if the stems have front vowels. The rule of synharmony, too, which requires the use of back vowels with the velar consonants is not always observed, e.g., [ʔor] 'blind', [tiʔan] 'thorn', etc. With regard to the degree of adherence to the rule of vowel harmony, Shiräliyev (1967:58) places Tabriz speech at the end of a list of Azerbaijani dialects (including the Baku dialect) with frequent breaches of the rule of harmony.

1.21. A glance at the rarely published Southern Azerbaijani literature of any value suffices to indicate that despite the claim to the contrary the Tabriz dialect is not the literary dialect of Southern Azerbaijan. This fact is evident from the absence of the already mentioned harmony breaches characteristic of the Tabriz dialect in the literary language. In other words, in Southern Azerbaijan, too, for serious literature there is a literary dialect much similar to or identical with the literary dialect employed in Northern Azerbaijan. In this dialect all the vowel harmony breaches are avoided.

1.22. In the following chapters we are concerned with the phonology of the spoken urban Tabriz dialect of Azerbaijani. Chapter two discusses the previous words on Azerbaijani phonology examined by the author; chapter three posits the underlying segments of Azerbaijani; chapter four

presents the phonological rules involved in the derivation of the pronunciation of Tabriz speech; and chapter five gives an account of nativization of loan words in Azerbaijani.

### Notes

1 The fact that the Azerbaijani language has not been limited to Azerbaijan can be seen through many centuries since its formation as a literary dialect in the fourteenth century. Between the fourteenth and sixteenth centuries Azerbaijani was one of the three major literary languages of the Turkic world, the two others being Osmanli (first only negligibly different from Azerbaijani) and Chaghatay (see Berengian 1965: 3-5).

Concerning its currency outside Azerbaijan we may note that the status of Azerbaijani as a lingua franca in Central Asia and Caucasia repeatedly has been mentioned by men like Lermontov, Marlinsky, Abovyan, Lazarev, and Budagov. Lermontov has even compared the convenience afforded by Azerbaijani to people traveling in the Caucasus and Central Asia to that of French to the travelers in Europe. And as an example of its popularity among different peoples, it may be pointed out that according to recent research, between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries thirty-five Armenian folk poet-musicians composed and performed in Azerbaijani (See Dämirchizadə 1972:6).

2 The implication is that in Southern Azerbaijan today Azerbaijani is largely a spoken language, though once it was also a language of publications. 'Eight Turkic [i.e., Azerbaijani H. S.] newspapers were published during the first stage of Constitutional Period [1906-1911] in Tabriz and Urumiyya' (Berengian 1965:38).

3 Professor Tibor Halasi-Kun (1962:18) of Columbia University says: 'Even today the Azeri [i.e., Azerbaijani H. S.] Akhondzade is considered the greatest playwright both of the Turkic world and of the Near and Middle East.'

4 The spelling forms for almost all the Arabic and Persian loans, in Southern Azerbaijan, are identical with that in the source language.

5 The informal [sahat] has not undergone the maximum number of the rules in comparison with normal [saat] (See p.161 for their derivation).

6 The partial observance or nonobservance of vowel harmony in Tabriz speech seems to have historical reasons. E.g., the word for 'rice' is [düji] in Tabriz speech, and [tuki] in early Turkic (Emre 1949:38). The difference between the Tabriz [düji] and the literary Azerbaijani [düyü] (Azizbäkov 1965:142), thus, seems to be in the further development of vowel harmony in the literary style and the lingering of archaism in Tabriz speech.

Similarly, the harmony in the Tabriz [æˈlün] 'thy hand' (corresponding to the literary pronunciation [æˈlin]) may not be considered as broken because this form has kept more of the earlier [æˈlũn] (Ergin 1963:126). Using standard Turkish orthography, Ergin transliterates the word for 'thy hand' اليد (*Kitab-i Dādām Gorgud...* Dresden Copy p. 84) as elün where the e is in fact [æ] in Azerbaijani (see Ergin 1958:402). There are Turkish dialects, e.g., Anatolian dialects, where the orthographic e represents both the mid front [e] and the lower mid front [ɛ] (which corresponds to Azerbaijani [æ]). In these dialects [e] and [ɛ] contrast, e.g., el[ɛ]l (Azerbaijani [æ]l ä]l) 'hand' and el[e]l 'country'. (See Dilâçar 1950:60-61 and 1964:107).

## CHAPTER II

### A REVIEW OF THE EXISTING TREATMENTS OF AZERBAIJANI PHONOLOGY

2.1. Chapter two presents a brief review of six works on Azerbaijani phonology. In each work we have been concerned mainly with what is related to Azerbaijani phonological segments. This means that we have not reviewed each work in its entirety. Consequently, the narrow scope of our interest has made it impossible for us to refer to all the valuable contributions of each work to Azerbaijani linguistics.

Except for one linguist (Shiräliyev) who views the sound system of the majority of Azerbaijani dialects, and hence is not expected to focus on a particular dialect, five out of the six linguists whose treatment of Azerbaijani sound systems we examined are concerned with particular dialects.

2.1.1. One linguist (Assaturian) seems to describe the Northern literary dialect, with valuable references to Tabriz speech. Two linguists (Dämürchizadə and Akhundov) describe the sound system of the Northern literary dialect of Azerbaijani. Two linguists (Fraenkel and Färzanä) describe the Tabriz dialect.

2.1.2. Assaturian 1958. This is a phonemic analysis presenting the phonemes, their allophones, and distribution in consecutive sections for Turkish followed by Azerbaijani. Turkish receives fuller treatment, and the shorter treatment of Azerbaijani includes references to the Turkish norms.

2.1.3. Assaturian's description of Azerbaijani phonemes generally accounts for Tabriz speech, as well, although his description of one segment does not correspond with that in Tabriz speech. He speaks of a voiceless postvelar stop in Azerbaijani. If 'postvelar' is to mean a point of articulation beyond the articulatory point for velar stop, i.e., a uvular stop, this does not seem to belong to the Tabriz dialect nor probably to other Azerbaijani dialects. We are not informed to which Azerbaijani speech area his informant belongs, though from note 9, page 36 it seems inferable that Assaturian's Azerbaijani informant comes from Southern Azerbaijan. It seems possible that what Assaturian describes as a voiceless postvelar stop is the same voiceless velar stop which, reportedly, is encountered in some Northern and Western dialects and speeches of Northern Azerbaijan. E.g., in Zagatala-Gakh speech, in the north, the voiceless palatal stop [k'] is often replaced by the voiceless velar stop [k], e.g., [komak]</kõmæk/ 'help', [inak]</inæk/ 'cow', etc.; and in Western dialects, the voiceless velar stop has been found before [ɨ] and [u] in a few words, e.g., [kɨʂ]</gɨʂ/ 'winter', [kuʂ]</guʂ/ 'bird' (Shiräliyev, 1967:75).

2.1.4. In view of the phonetic difference between the Tabriz dental and retroflex affricates [cɟʃɨʃ] and other Azerbaijani alveopalatal affricates and palatal stops [čj'k'g'], Assaturian's choice of /čj'k'g'/ is quite significant from our point of view. Concerning [ɨʃɨʃ] he observes:

The two phonemes /gʲ/ and /kʲ/ are so strongly palatalized and fronted with some speakers, especially in Tabriz, Ardabil and other areas in Iranian Azerbaijan, that they sound almost like /dʒ/ and /tč/ respectively (p. 36).

And concerning [cɟ] he says:

Those Azeri speakers who articulate the /kʲ/ and

/gʏ/ phonemes as (tʃ) and (dʒ), instead of (çʏ) and (jʏ) would use (c) and (dz) (p. 40).

2.1.5. In the section 'Distribution of phonemes' Assaturian gives the useful explanation that in a word with a vowel sequence, there appears an internal open juncture between the two vowels when the second is stressed, as in [saat] 'time, timepiece.' Assaturian (1958:43) also observes that 'when two vowels occur together unstressed they are pronounced in close juncture. Example, /teali/ 'elevation', where the first vowel forms a syllable with the preceding consonant, while the second vowel on the other hand forms a syllable by itself.' Here, too, what interests us is that vowel sequences in Azerbaijani constitute two syllable sequences in contrast to a diphthong in whose underlying structure in Azerbaijani the segments involved are a vowel and a nonsyllable segment, not two vowels (see 2.3.6; 2.4.2; 2.4.4.2; 2.5.3.1; 2.6.3.5-6). Furthermore, if our analysis is correct, the orthographic form teali (also in Moran, 1945:1233), which in formal style of pronunciation consists even phonetically of a cvcvcv sequence, does not contain a vowel sequence. The word teali in phonetic form consists of a cvcvcv whose first intervocalic c is a glottal stop which replaces the Arabic voiced pharyngeal fricative in the Arabic word taṣāli. The presence of the glottal stop in the partially nativized form [tæʔāli] rises from a physiological need for a connecting nonsyllabic segment between two vowels differing in backness or height. Another instance of a replacement motivated by such necessity can be seen in [duwa] Arabic duṣā 'prayer' where the inserted nonsyllabic segment agrees in roundness with the preceding vowel. Similarly, the front glide in [ismayil] < Arabic ismaʕīl Ishmael is a replacement.

2.1.6. It is rather difficult to agree with Assaturian's implication that there are initial consonant clusters in Azerbaijani. He gives

a few initial clusters, e.g., dram 'drama', gram 'gram', spor 'sport', sfenks 'sphinx', staž 'apprenticeship', etc. for Turkish, and at the end of the section for clusters he observes: 'the distribution of consonants in Azeri Turkish represents the same pattern, and listing of it here would be repetitious. Most of the examples cited for Osmanli Turkish occur identically in Azeri' (Assaturian, 1958:49). To the present writer's knowledge the fact is that any occurrence of initial clusters will be in nonassimilated loans in the speech of those aware of the nonnative origin of the word.

2.1.7. Concerning clusters, it should be pointed out that, although medial clusters (usually of two and rarely of three consonants) do occur in Azerbaijani, in popular Tabriz speech it is seldom the case that voicing assimilation exists. Quite the contrary, even where orthography shows voicing assimilation of consonants, in pronunciation dissimilation occurs, e.g., ista [isdæ] 'Ask (for)!'.

2.1.8. Assaturian shows that in Turkish and Azerbaijani there are three stress levels: primary, secondary, and weak. The difference between weak and primary stress can be phonemic in monosyllabics, e.g., [gül] 'flower' vs. [gü] 'Smile!'. As to the position of stresses in polysyllabics, in native words, as Assaturian shows, the primary stress falls on the last syllable, the weak on the syllable preceding the primary, and the secondary stress, in words of more than three syllables, falls either on the last syllable of the root, e.g., [algışladılar] 'they applauded' (Dämirchizadä, 1972:160), or stays on the first syllable, e.g., [jöldäş-lärimiz] 'our friends' (accusative). In Turkish, foreign and geographical names are stressed on the first syllable, e.g., bánka 'bank', pósta 'post', Lóndra 'London', Sírkeci 'an area in Istanbul'. But this is not

the case in Azerbaijani where foreign words are not exceptions to the stress rule, e.g., tilifun 'telephone', Ländän 'London', Maralän 'an area in Tabriz'.

2.1.9. As Assaturian observes, in compound words the last syllable bears the primary stress, e.g., birçog 'many.' Also, as he mentions, stress falls on the syllable preceding the question marker /mi/, whose presence is not necessary in normal and informal styles, though it is encountered in literary style, e.g., Gördün(mü)? 'did you see?'. We could add that there are other syllables, too, that behave like the question marker /mi/, e.g., the negation marker /ma/, and several others (see for a discussion of such syllables Dämirchizadä, 1972:155-6). Finally, as Assaturian (1958:53) mentions, in reduplicate words both members receive primary stress on the final vowel, e.g., tané tané (daná daná in Tabriz) 'one by one'.

2.1.10. Assaturian observes that whereas vowel length is phonemic in Osmanli, it is not in Azerbaijani. Osmanli, roughly, is the Turkic during the 15th to early 20th centuries in Turkey. Today Turks of Turkey refer to their language as Türkçe 'Turkish' or Türkçemiz 'our Turkish' as opposed to Azerice 'Azeri', Azeri Türkçesi 'Azeri Turkish', Azeri 'Azerbaijani' etc. In fact some of the long vowels are surface phonetic manifestations: [döru] dogru 'right, correct,' etc., and some are non-assimilated, nonnative vowels, e.g., [fenā] <Arabic fanā 'dissolution', [ĵām] <Persian ĵām 'goblet.' Only when we compare the length in words like these with the ordinary native vowels as well as the shortened (i.e., nativized) vowels in nativized words can we find 'phonemic contrast,' e.g., [ĵām] <Persian ĵām 'goblet' vs. [ĵam] 'glass, pane.'<sup>1</sup>

2.2.1. Fraenkel 1961. Part V of Fraenkel's work, 'The phonemes'



(pp. 446-52), consists of (1) Azerbaijani vowel 'phonemes' in the vowel triangle, followed by short comments on vowel harmony, and allophonic variations, (2) the table of Azerbaijani consonants, followed by notes on the allophonic variations, and their distribution. Finally, he gives a distinctive feature analysis chart with Jakobsonian features.

(1) The vowels:

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| i | ü | y | u |
| e | ö |   | o |
| æ |   | a |   |

2.2.2. Fraenkel (p. 446) gives a cryptic hint at vowel harmony: 'Normally either the low vowels æ a or the high vowels i ü y u harmonize in one of the two possibilities of vowel harmony existent in the language; other types are rare.' Then he refers to Azerbaijani vowels in the frame of (Daniel Jones's) cardinal vowel system.

Fraenkel's note on vowel harmony is rather too laconic to be directly understood. He presents Azerbaijani vowels in two groups: the low vowels /æ a/, and the high vowels /i ü y u/. (Not implausibly, he disregards the mid vowels /e ö o/ which as he observes (p. 447) do not occur in suffixes.) But it is not quite clear how /æ a/ harmonize in native Azerbaijani words. It is true that they are low vowels, but they differ more importantly in that one is a front, the other is a back vowel. This is an improbable mistake, hence Fraenkel's grouping of /æ a/ and /i ü y u/ must have another interpretation. Possibly, Fraenkel intended that /æ/ vs. /a/ and /i ü/ vs. /y u/ stand in a relationship, i.e., the low /æ/ harmonizes with the high /i ü/ all being front vowels, and the low /a/ harmonizes with the high /y u/ all being back vowels.

2.2.3. As for consonants, Fraenkel gives detailed phonetic information,

like the voicelessness of Azerbaijani stops initially, after consonants, and finally. But most importantly, from the viewpoint of our approach, Fraenkel gives the 'blade-palatal' č and ĵ (of church and judge) rather than the dental c (of hats and adze), as Azerbaijani affricate phonemes. Fraenkel's choice of /č/ and /ĵ/ rather than /c/ and /ʒ/, which are more expected because his informant is a Tabrizi speaker of Azerbaijani, is quite significant. Similarly, Fraenkel refers to dorso-palatal stops (i.e., /k'/ and /g'/ rather than the retroflex affricates, i.e., [t͡ʂ] and [d͡ʒ]), as Azerbaijani phonemes. These are in agreement with our generative interpretation to be presented in the following chapter.

2.2.4. In the section "Distribution," Fraenkel gives more phonetic information about Azerbaijani consonants. Some of these are phonologically important, e.g., the non-nativeness of the voiceless velar stops; the restriction of the palatal stops to syllable initial position; only non-initial occurrence of voiced velar fricative; the unstableness of /h/; and the realization of /v/ as [w] after /a/ and /o/.

2.2.5. There seems to be a contradictory view of the segment /r/, which is specified as [+voc, +cns, +strid. . .] (p. 452). According to Fraenkel himself (p. 450) /r/ is 'a flap with fricative allophones; thus in phonemic terms the norm or 'systematic phoneme' is the 'voiced flap' which is so realized intervocalically and initially, though initially the flap is in free variation with a voiced fricative allophone, and finally and before a voiceless consonant/r/ has a voiceless allophone resembling [ʂ]. It is in its devoiced allophonic occurrences, finally and preconsonantly, i.e., when /r/ assimilates to [ʂ] that it has the feature [+strident], not in its normal occurrence, i.e., intervocalically and initially, where it is a voiced flap or voiced fricative. Now if the

systematic phoneme /r/ is a vocalic liquid, as Fraenkel, too, has specified it, how can it also be specified as [+ strident], as we find in Fraenkel (p. 452)? In sum, it is true that Azerbaijani /r/ tends to be devoiced finally and before consonants, which seems to produce an impression of stridency; however, if 'stridency is a feature restricted to obstruent consonants and affricates [whereas] plosives and sonorants are nonstrident' (Chomsky and Halle, 1968:329) we cannot label Azerbaijani /r/ as both a vocalic liquid and a strident segment. And if 'strident liquids. . . are nonvocalic' (Chomsky and Halle, 1968:329), again, it is contradictory to specify Azerbaijani /r/ as [+cns, +voc. . . +strid.].

2.3.1. Färzanä 1965. Färzanä finds in Azerbaijani nine vowels (a e ê i î o ô u û; p. 20) which he classifies according to their back/front, open/close, unrounded/rounded features, and 23 consonants (pp.20-4), in an arrangement like

glottal: h

velars: q, ɣ, x

palatals: g-k, y

pre-palatals: d-t, c-ç, z-s, j-ş, r, n, l

labio-dentals: v-f

bilabials: b-p, m

Färzanä's a e ê i î, o ô u û correspond to /a æ e i ï o ö u ü/, respectively, and his q y c ç ş j correspond respectively to /g j ç š ž/.

2.3.2. Färzanä first establishes the point that vowels harmonize in Azerbaijani since it is a Turkic language. Then he tackles the questions of native words, loanwords, and the degrees of nativization, with admirable conciseness, yet a degree of comprehensiveness. E.g., he shows that in native Azerbaijani words vowels in stems and suffixes

harmonize in backness or frontness, e.g., [qʰözæɫ] 'beautiful', [qʰözæɫlæɾ] 'the beauty', [qʰözæɫliχ] 'beauty', [ajɾɪ] 'separate', [ajɾɪliχ] 'separation'. Then he shows that (1) there are some loans that already have this harmony pattern, e.g., [æɣsæɾ] <Arabic athar 'effect', [hæsræɫ] <Arabic hasrat 'anguish', [ʃæfæɣ] <Arabic ʃafaq 'twilight', (2) some words which in the lending language contained both front and back vowels but after entering Azerbaijani have undergone harmonizing changes: [rahat] <Arabic rāhat 'comfortable', [tamaʃa] <Persian tāmāʃā 'spectacle', etc., (3) some loanwords which have not acquired Azerbaijani vowel harmony. Their original phonetic structure has remained almost intact: [mæhbup] <Arabic māhbūb 'beloved', [sæɾbaz] <Persian sārbāz 'soldier', [tæɾānæ] <Persian tārāne 'song'.

2.3.3. Most of Färzanä's insightful discussion of vowel harmony is reflected in the section on vowel harmony to be discussed in Chapter 4. Yet there are two points of some importance not to be omitted here: (1) mid vowels appear only in the initial syllable of words; (2) rounding harmony in suffixes is mostly a modern phenomenon. This observation by Färzanä can easily be substantiated upon comparing the form of the modern dictionary entries (e.g., Moran, 1945; Äzizbäkov, 1965) for the words 'fox', 'lamb', 'flock', 'true', 'tube, pipe', 'clear', etc., i.e., tülkü, guzu, sürü, dogru, boru, duru, etc., with their pronunciation in Tabriz: [guzi], [süri], [dogri], [bori], [duri], etc. In these and similar forms we see the archaic stage without the rounding harmony. Note that the lack of rounding harmony can be traced from Old Turkic to present. (See Emre, 1949:68 for further explanations.)

2.3.4. As Färzanä observes, Azerbaijani vowels are nonlong. This fact accounts for the shortened vowels in some thoroughly nativized

loanwords. This is not to deny the occurrence of long vowels in non-assimilated loanwords, or the phonetic formation of long vowels in native words under predictable conditions.

2.3.4.1. Färzanä observes that from among the nine Azerbaijani vowels /i/ (i.e., the high back unrounded) is shorter than the others. 'And it is for this deficiency,' he observes "that i does not have the fitness of appearing word-initially, and in such cases gives its place to i' (p. 30).

2.3.4.2. I wonder if this argument of Färzanä holds at all. He himself acknowledges the existence of initial [i]. He says, 'words whose initial syllable consists of the vowel i, in writing, this sound [my emphasis H.S.], by violation of vowel harmony is written i, e.g., inanmaq 'to believe', ilan 'snake'.' And most strangely he goes on to say, 'such words even if their initial i is pronounced [i], as in [iɫiŋ] 'lukewarm', [iʃiŋ] 'light', [iɫdirim] 'thunderbolt' are represented with i in writing, thus i is deprived of the initial position, though in other instances it enjoys equal rights with other vowels' (p. 30). Apparently, a confusion of 'sound' and 'letter' has crept here. Language is speech, and if there are words with initial [i] pronunciation, then we cannot deny the existence of this pronunciation even if in writing (because traditional Arabic script does not reflect the difference) we have only one letter i to stand for both [i] and [i]. And since Färzanä's argument for the shortness of [i] is based on the supposition that [i] does not occur initially, the shortness claim falls when we find that according to Färzanä himself, we do have initial [i] in words like [iɫiŋ], [iʃiŋ], [iɫdirim].

2.3.4.3. It is true, however, that the initial [i] is very infrequent in urban Tabriz speech. I seem to have two [i]-initial words in my speech, i.e., [iʃiŋrmax] 'to hiccup', and [iɫxi] 'herd'.<sup>2</sup>

2.3.5. The existence of mid vowels in noninitial syllables, in words like alov 'flame', gašov 'curry comb', buzov 'calf', buxov 'fettters', oxlov '(cook's) rolling-pin', etc., contradicts the fact that mid vowels are restricted to the initial syllable.<sup>3</sup>

2.3.5.1. While all the linguists whose work on Azerbaijani phonology we have examined mention the restriction about the occurrence of mid vowels in Azerbaijani, none except Färzanä comments on the origin of the [o] itself in the second syllable of the cited words. Whereas others take the occurrence of the [o] in noninitial syllables as an 'exception' (Dämirchizadä, 1972:56, 61, 129), a 'phoneme' (Akhundov, 1973:132-3), only Färzanä observes that the [o] in the noninitial syllable of the cited words is a phonetic output.

2.3.5.2. Although he does not speak of 'underlying segments' and 'phonetic representations,' Färzanä's brief comment on the origin of the [o] in the unexpected position in the cited words is similar to a generative view. He says:

Although the sound [o] in several occasions, with the help of the letter v participates [i.e., [o] is conditioned by this v H.S.] in the second syllable of the words like alov 'flame', buxov 'fettters', buzov 'calf', gašov 'curry comb', this [[o] H.S.] is a phonetic phenomenon (Färzanä, 1965:30).

2.3.5.3. His view that [o] (similarly [ö]) in the noninitial syllable of a word is a phonetic form is another way of saying that it is not a 'phoneme' but a derived segment. And this presupposes an underlying segment which for some reason Färzanä does not specify.

2.3.5.4. But it is not difficult to discover this underlying segment if, in the light of Färzanä's observation, we study examples like those cited by him against their earlier forms. The words buzov [bizow]

'calf', buxov [buxow] 'fetters', gırov [gırow] 'hoar-frost', bülöv [bilöv] 'whetstone' appear as buzagu (58-18)<sup>4</sup>, bugagu<sup>5</sup> (446-26), gıragu (446-11), and bilegu (447-19) in Kashghari, 1072-3.

2.3.5.5. The Azerbaijani version of such early forms which persist in Turkish (e.g., buzagı, bukagı, kıragı, bilegi), can now be accounted for by the following transformational rule which deletes the final vowel, changes the [g]/[g'] to [w]/[w̃], and rounds the vowel preceding the [w]/[w̃]:

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 \begin{array}{c} [+syl] \\ \langle bk \rangle \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} [+cns \\ +hi \\ +vce \\ -cnt \\ -strid] \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} [+syl] \\ [+rnd] \end{array} & \# \Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} [+rnd] \\ [-lo] \end{array} \begin{array}{c} [-cns] \\ \langle bk \rangle \\ [+rnd] \end{array} \emptyset \\
 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4
 \end{array}$$

In the forms derived by this rule the unexpected mid round vowel in the noninitial syllable, as Färzanä observes, is a phonetic product caused by the round glide, represented as a v in orthography.<sup>6</sup>

2.3.6. Färzanä clearly observes that, except in some regional speeches, there are no diphthongs in Azerbaijani. And in confirmation of this point he observes that the reason why Turkic languages, including Azerbaijani, do not have diphthongs is that each syllable in these languages can have only one vowel. Furthermore, these languages disallow the development of diphthongs. Thus, in two adjacent syllables of a word two vowels do not come side by side -- if this occurs, as the result of suffixation, usually a nonsyllabic sound intervenes. E.g., [βiʃiyæ] < /kiʃi+a/ 'man + ind. obj. marker', 'to the man', [balasi] < /bala+i/ 'child + third person singular genitive marker' 'his child', [dævæni] < /dævæ+i/ 'camel + dir. obj. marker' 'the camel', etc.. Note, however, that diphthongs do occur in speech. E.g., [ow] < /av/ov 'game', [dovʃan] < /davʃan/ dovʃan 'rabbit.' We shall find this in more detail in Shiräliyev's treatment below.

2.3.7. Unlike vowel sequences, medial consonant clusters of usually two, and less frequently, three segments, are allowed in Azerbaijani since it is a Turkic language. This leads to the question of the existence of geminate consonants in Azerbaijani. As Färzanä observes, apart from these medial geminates formed through the adjacency of a suffix consonant with an identical stem consonant (e.g., [jellæ:r]</jel+lar/ 'winds', [æmmæ:k]</æm+mak/ 'to suck', etc.), some geminates, mainly phonetic realizations are found in a limited number of Azerbaijani roots (e.g., [ælli] 'fifty', [bælli] 'known, evident', [dokguz]</dogguz/ 'nine', etc.).

2.3.8. Färzanä concludes his discussion of Azerbaijani sounds with a concise and orderly description of the most important phonological rules in Azerbaijani. First he explains a few basic points like 'sound change' and 'diachronic and synchronic' changes. His account is synchronic. He treats first some of the violations of the vowel harmony in Tabriz speech. Then, he gives examples of voicing assimilation, spirantization, final devoicing, point of articulation assimilation (progressive and regressive). In a highly organized manner, he gives examples of i-epenthesis, and consonant insertion, as well as examples of vowel and consonant deletion. Not aiming at a formal mathematical presentation, Färzanä's observations come in clear prose exposition.

2.4.1. Dämirchizadä, 1972. Dämirchizadä classifies Azerbaijani vowels by the following criteria:

1. The horizontal position of the tongue
  - (a) front: i, ü, e, æ
  - (b) central: e
  - (c) back: a, ı, o, u
2. The vertical position of the tongue



- (a) close: u, ü, ɤ, i
  - (b) half-open: e
  - (c) open: o, ö, a, æ
3. Labialization: o, u, ö, ü
  4. Quality: there are no diphthong phonemes
  5. Quantity: vowel length nonphonemic in native words
  6. Tenseness: all Azerbaijani vowels are nontense.

Of these 1-3 are self-explanatory, though one wonders why Dämirchizadä does not pair /ö/ along with /e/ as central/half-open. We shall comment on criteria 4-6.

2.4.2. 4. On the basis of the view that a diphthong is a single phoneme resulting from two vowel sources, Dämirchizadä argues that there are no diphthongs contrasting with monophthong vowels in literary Azerbaijani, though in the structure of some words in colloquial speech, as it is the case in some Azerbaijani dialects, diphthongs result from the combination of vowels, and at times from the sequence of a vowel and a following consonant like [jvʃ]. Dämirchizadä cites [toûx] toyug 'hen', [jûâl] jûval 'large bag', [bôûx] böyük 'great', [kôûl] könü 'heart(center of affection)', [nôût] naft 'petroleum', [gôum] gohum 'kin' to exemplify what he considers diphthongs. Dämirchizadä (1972:14) uses the sign ˘ above vowel sequences to indicate that they are pronounced together like diphthongs. But this argument seems to confuse different processes. The fact (at least in the writer's idiolect) seems to be that a vcv sequence may become a vv sequence, not a diphthong. See 2.6.3.5-6, 2.6.5-3 for our view about Azerbaijani long vowels, diphthongs, and vowel sequences.

2.4.3. 5. Dämirchizadä rightly observes that vowel length is nonphonemic in native Azerbaijani words, though his view that the syncopating

i in [agzinda] /agiz+inda/ 'in his mouth' is shorter than other vowels seems to lack enough support. The fact seems to be that the disappearance of i and u in words like [agzim]<[agizim]/agiz+im/ 'my mouth', [garnim]<[garinim]/garin+im/ 'my stomach', [burnum]<[burunum]/burun+im/ 'my nose', etc. results from the shift of stress from them to the vowel in the syllable following them. Thus, rather than a 'short' variant of i or u we may speak of these vowels in a weak position, which is the position preceding or following a stressed syllable.<sup>7</sup> But even this is not exceptionless. We may have [agizim] 'my share of the milk of the young cow' where unlike [agzim] 'my mouth' syncope of the vowel in the weak position has not occurred.

2.4.4. Dämirchizadä also refers to the existence of some long vowels in the Shäki dialect of Azerbaijani, e.g., [jāgī] 'enemy' vs. [jagī] 'the oil' (accusative). This is interesting because in Tabriz speech, too, we have [jāšil] 'green', [nārin] 'fine (size)', [gālin] 'thick', side by side with [jašil], [narin], [galin] pronunciations. One is tempted to think that these words with long [ā] have been remodeled on the familiar Arabic morpheme structure cVcvc; on the other hand, one is no less attracted to the idea that the native words with long vowels preserve original Old Turkic long vowels. Three out of the six linguists whose work on Azerbaijani phonology we have examined do speak of native long vowels. In our generative phonology of Azerbaijani underlying long vowel segments have a role in voicing the word-final obstruents in monosyllabics. (See 3.10.2.3, 3.10.2.4)

2.4.4.1. It is true, however, that some long vowels are phonetically produced both in loanwords, and native words, e.g., [tāɛlim]<Arabic taɛlīm 'education', where the voiced pharyngeal fricative has been replaced by

length. But not all phonetic long vowels are of this kind. E.g., despite Därmichizadâ's view that the word for 'time, timepiece' has a single long [ā] (p. 46), the fact seems to be that it has a sequence of two vowels of ordinary length, i.e., it is [saat] < Arabic sāfat 'time, timepiece'. According to Akhundov (1973:130), too, 'facts show that whether in saat or in any other word with a sequence of aa, there is not a single long a, but two short a's.'

2.4.4.2. The difference between the long syllabic part in [tā̄lim] and [saat] 'time, timepiece' is that in the derivation of [tā̄lim] < /tæʔlīm/ < Arabic taslīm 'education' the deletion of the glottal stop (which has replaced the Arabic voiced pharyngeal fricative in the Azerbaijani underlying form /tæʔlīm/) is compensated for by addition of length to the vowel preceding the deleted segment in the underlying form, whereas in the derivation of [saat] < /sāʔæt/ < Arabic sāfat 'time, timepiece' the deletion of the underlying glottal stop has only removed the barrier between the two vowels of ordinary length. It is as a result of this deletion of the consonantal barrier that the uninterrupted articulation of the two vowels of ordinary length gives the impression of a long [ā] which is not a single segment in my idiolect of Tabriz speech. The derivation of the words [tā̄lim] and [saat] may show the difference between the [ā̄] in [tā̄lim] and [aa] in [saat].

/t æ ʔ l ī m/    /s ā ʔ æ t/

|                       |          |        |
|-----------------------|----------|--------|
| (1) (FVS)(3.12.3.4)   | i        |        |
| (2) (NFVS)(3.12.3.3)  |          | a      |
| (3) (Glt-wk)(1)(Ch.4) |          | h      |
| (4) (2)               |          | ∅      |
| (5) (VL)              | ā ∅      |        |
| (6) (VH)              |          | a      |
|                       | [tā̄lim] | [saat] |

In these derivations the rules (2) (3) (4) (6) for the derivation of [saat], and (1) (3) (5) for the derivation of [tǣlim] have this order.

2.4.4.3. Thus, we have two kinds of phonetically produced long vowels: one represented by the long vowel in [tǣlim]</tǣɾlīm</Arabic taṣlīm 'education' where the deleted segment actively contributes to the production of the long vowel, the other (i.e., the one which Dämirchizadä gives as [ā] in [sāt]) represented by [saat]</sā̄ǣt</Arabic sā̄at 'time, timepiece' where the deleted segment produces two contiguous identical vowels. In other words, the length which is not that of a single long vowel results from the adjacency of two identical vowels, which adjacency in turn results from the deletion of the intervocalic segment.

2.4.4.4. The distinction which we make between a single long vowel (e.g., in [jäšil] 'green', [nārin] 'fine (size)', [gālin] 'thick', [āgil]</Arabic ʕāgil 'wise', [tǣlim]</Arabic taṣlīm 'education', etc.) and long vowel which consists of two identical vowels (e.g., in [saat]</Arabic sā̄at 'time, timepiece', [šuur]</Arabic šūūr 'intelligence', [sǣǣr]</Arabic saḥar 'morning', [tǣǣmmül]</Arabic taẕammul 'thought, reflection', [tǣǣʒʒüb]</Arabic taṣaʃʃub 'astonishment', etc.) is confirmed by the syllabic structure of the 'long' vowel in question. Whereas the single stress on the long vowel in [jäšil], [nārin], [gālin], [āgil], [tǣlim], etc. shows that this is a single long vowel, the double stress on the 'long' vowel in [sāat], [šūūr], [sǣǣr], [tǣǣmmül], [tǣǣʒʒüb], etc. proves that the 'long' vowel in such words consists of two segments.

2.4.5. 6. Dämirchizadä speaks of tense vowels (i.e., long vowels) and nontense vowels (i.e., the ordinary and the, allegedly, shorter vowels), though he also points out that the tense-nontense classification can be made in some speeches only, not in the literary dialect.

2.4.6. Finally, Dämırchızadä points out that there are nasal vowels in some Azerbaijani dialects, though not in the literary dialect. On the basis of Dämırchızadä's description nasal vowels are phonetic phenomena in whose production a vowel preceding a nasal consonant is nasalized and the nasal segment is deleted, e.g., [aldĩz̃] </aldĩniz/ 'you acquired', [sã̃] </sæ̃næ/ 'to thee', [mã̃] </mæ̃næ/ 'to me', etc. (Dämırchızadä, 1972:47).

2.4.7. Dämırchızadä finds in Azerbaijani the following 25 consonants all of which, except for [x̣] and [k], he considers as the phonemes of Azerbaijani. He hesitates to posit [x̣] and [k] as phonemes, because neither of them is symbolized in Azerbaijani orthography, and while [x̣] is restricted to the syllable-final position, the voiceless velar stop [k] is found primarily in loans.

|   |   |    |      |     |
|---|---|----|------|-----|
| p | t | k' | (k)  |     |
| b | d | g' | g    |     |
| f | s | š  | (x̣) | x h |
| v | z | ž  | j    | g   |
|   |   | č  |      |     |
|   |   | ǰ  |      |     |
| m | n |    |      |     |
|   | l |    |      |     |
|   | r |    |      |     |

2.4.7.1. Since the basic points of Dämırchızadä's description of Azerbaijani consonant phonemes can be gathered from the above chart, we shall point out only the cases of important differences with the analysis presented here.

2.4.7.2. Dämırchızadä's description of /č j k' g'/, palatal affricates and stops, does not account for their realization in Tabriz speech. We

shall take up the question of the realization of these segments in Tabriz speech, in the next chapter.

2.4.7.3. An interesting point is the question of the voiceless palatal fricative [x̣] which Dämirchizadä seems to consider to have the potential for being a phoneme though it is not a fully-formed phoneme, yet (96). Note that to treat [x̣] as a potential phoneme, in terms of generative phonology means to consider [x̣] as an underlying segment, not a predictable phonetic segment. But the fact is that [x̣] is a phonetic segment derived by rule, not an underlying segment. [x̣] is produced when the palatal stop [ḳ] (see (1.20) and (3.2.11) for the status of the [ḳ] in Azerbaijani dialects) is in preconsonantal or word-final position in many dialects of Azerbaijani including the Northern literary dialect described by Dämirchizadä, and Tabriz speech. E.g., in these dialects we find [ḳæ x̣li x̣] ([βæ x̣li x̣] in Tabriz) 'quail', [æ x̣dim] 'I planted', [çö ræ x̣] ([cö ræ x̣] in Tabriz) 'bread', etc..

2.4.7.4. Considering that orthographically these words are käklik, äkdım, çöräk, Dämirchizadä states that the preconsonantal and the final ḳ's are mere symbols for [x̣] in default of an independent symbol for [x̣] in Azerbaijani orthography. While this is superficially true, the appreciation of the relationship between [ḳ] and [x̣] is lacking in Dämirchizadä's description. Hence, he is compelled to consider [x̣] as a sound of some phonemic value for which Azerbaijani orthography has no symbol, hence it is symbolized with k.

2.4.7.5. But this scarcely seems to reflect reality. The fact is that [x̣] is the preconsonantal and final variant of [ḳ] in Tabriz speech and the dialect Dämirchizadä describes. This can be seen from the alternation of [x̣] and [ḳ] in such examples as: [æ x̣] äk 'plant!', [æ x̣dim]

äkdim 'I planted', but [ǽkíraem] ([æʃíraem] in Tabriz) äkíräm 'I am planting.' Obviously, the [ḱ] which finally ([ǽx]) and preconsonantly ([ǽxdim]) is spirantized to [x́], surfaces before the vowel ([ǽkíraem]/[æʃíraem]).

2.4.7.6. Whereas in these dialects the [ḱ] in monosyllabics like [čǽx] ([cǽx] in Tabriz) 'to draw', [tү́x] 'hair', [tíx] 'sew', [tǽx] 'alone', etc. (but not in polysyllabics) appears phonetically before vowels, there are dialects of Azerbaijani where [x́] is not produced.<sup>8</sup> I.e., the [ḱ] surfaces unspirantized, hence the orthographic käklik, äkämäk, čöräk represent also the phonetic forms. Thus we may conclude that [x́] is a positional phonetic realization of the [ḱ]. This can also be indirectly deduced from the derivation of [j] in words like [cörǽji] < [čörǽgi] < /čörǽk+i/ 'bread' (accusative) (see 2.4.7.8-9).

2.4.7.7. The final [ḱ] in polysyllabic words does not surface before vowels in many dialects including the literary and Tabriz dialects. Rather, it is realized as [j], e.g., [cörǽjæ] 'to the bread', [inǽjæ] 'to the cow', etc.. Such forms may give the impression that [j] results from the voicing of [x́] before a vowel. But this does not seem to be the case because since (as discussed in 2.4.7.3-9) [x́] is a phonetic form ((a) because of the recoverability of the [ḱ] in monosyllabics, (b) because the [ḱ] surfaces unchanged in other dialects of Azerbaijani) we do not have an underlying form like \*/čörǽx+i/ in order to obtain [cörǽji].

2.4.7.8. The correct derivation of [cörǽji] is from an underlying form like /čörǽk+i/, through the intermediate stage of [čörǽgi], as a result of [ḱ] → g/vcv-+v, followed by the general rule in the dialects including the literary and Tabriz, i.e., g → j/v- (see 3.6.4.1), as we find it in [ijit] < /igid/ 'valiant', [dǘjmæ] < /dügmæ/ 'button', [dǽj] <

/dæ g/ 'touch', [bæ j]</bæ g/ 'gentleman', etc..

2.4.7.9. Thus [j] in [cōræ ji], [inæ ji], etc. does not result from the voicing of [x̣], rather the spirantization of the [g̣] after a vowel which in turn, in words like [čōræ ji] ([cōræ ji] in Tabriz), [inæ ji], etc., results from the voicing of the [ḳ] before a vowel, as in /čōræ k+i/, /inæ k+i/, etc..

2.4.8. Dämirchizadä's view of the voiceless velar stop is factual. He observes that the voiceless velar stop is mainly to be found in some recent loans. But the voiced velar stop occurs freely, though not so frequently word-finally. The fact seems to be that in the majority of Azerbaijani dialects no native Azerbaijani word orthographically ending in g is so pronounced. This is inferable from Shiräliyev's (1967:96) classification of Azerbaijani dialects with respect to the realization of the /g/ as [x] or [g] in polysyllabics word-finally.

2.5.1. Akhundov, 1973. This is an impressive physiological, acoustic, statistical study rich beyond the limits of our scope here.

2.5.2. Akhundov makes a not unappealing case for long vowel 'phonemes' in Azerbaijani. After examining different views for and against the existence of long vowel phonemes in Azerbaijani, Akhundov concludes that there are long vowel phonemes. He arrives at this conclusion well aware that the long vowels have primarily foreign sources (p. 71), and arise from phonological processes. But he observes that in contemporary phonology the phonemic status of a vowel is not based on its source, rather it is based on the role the vowel plays synchronically. Hence, whether they are originally of the primarily lengthened vowels (e.g., dāš 'stone' vs. daš 'distant' in Turkmen), or of the secondarily lengthened ones (e.g., [āim]<Arabic šā'im 'learned' where the long vowel



is the unchanged Arabic long  $\bar{a}$ , or [mǣlum] < Arabic maʕlum 'known' where the long vowel has resulted from the replacement of the [ʕ] by length) long vowels in Azerbaijani on the basis of their linguistic condition, are to be considered independent phonemes.

2.5.3. Next is Akhundov's position on the question of the existence of diphthongs in Azerbaijani. He rejects Dämirchizadä's view that diphthongs are not phonemic. Dämirchizadä's point was that a diphthong is a single vowel resulting from two contiguous vowels. Akhundov rejects this by observing that a diphthong is not necessarily quantitatively one vowel resulting from two contiguous vowels, rather a diphthong is explained as the pronunciation of two vowels within one syllable. Note, however, that since each vowel is a syllabic segment, two vowels cannot be pronounced within one syllable. What Akhundov implies is, probably, that the second vowel in a sequence of two vowels is changed to a glide and thus the resultant sequence of VG forms one syllable. Consequently, Akhundov contends that Dämirchizadä's view of diphthongs results from his taking orthography as the basis of his judgment, i.e., by looking at the VC successions of, e.g., ov and öv rather than their phonetic values which are [ou] 'game' and [öü] 'home.' By [ou] and [öü], again Akhundov must intend [ow] and [öw] which being successions of VG are pronounced within one syllable.

2.5.3.1. According to Akhundov, there are two diphthongs in Azerbaijani: /öü/ and /ou/ (in fact, as just mentioned they are [öw] and [ow]), and they have phonemic status. Akhundov's criterion for the phonemic value of the diphthongs is that they contrast with the monophthongs /ö/ and /o/, e.g., [doga] 'so that (she) gives birth' vs. [douga] (in fact [dowga]) 'rice and vegetable soup with yogurt.' Faithful as it is,

Akhundov's phonetic approach fails to shed light on a more general fact in Azerbaijani. Rounded diphthongs, as already mentioned (see Note 6; 2.3.6; 2.6.5.2), result from the following rule:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ \alpha bk \end{bmatrix} & v & \left\{ \begin{array}{c} [-syl] \\ \# \end{array} \right\} & \Rightarrow & \begin{bmatrix} +rnd \\ -lo \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} -cns \\ +hi \\ \alpha bk \\ +rnd \end{bmatrix} \\
 1 & 2 & 3 & & 1 & 2 & 3
 \end{array}$$

This rule is also responsible for the diphthong in [dowga]/davga/ 'rice and vegetable soup with yogurt.' Apparently, the other diphthong mentioned by Akhundov, i.e. [öw], too, is formed by the application of this rule, e.g., [bilöw]/bilev/ 'whetstone.' In a generative analysis if [ow] and [öw] are predictable by rules, they cannot be underlying segments.

2.5.4. The vowel system proposed for Azerbaijani by Akhundov consists of: (a) nine ordinary vowels: i ü e æ a o ö u ı

(b) five long vowels: ī ē ȫ ǣ ā

(c) two diphthongs: öü ou.

2.5.4.1. Akhundov begins the description of each vowel with some brief historical information as to the sources of the vowel, cites its features, shows the place it holds in contrast with other vowels, indicates with which consonants it is or is not used, and finally cites its allophones. Akhundov's treatment is thorough and valuable particularly for its aim, i.e., the description of the phonemic system of Azerbaijani.

2.5.4.2. Akhundov closes his analysis of Azerbaijani vowels with two important generalizations: (1) all closed vowels in Azerbaijani, in the syllable preceding the stressed syllable, are shortened, (2) "In the closed round vowels the degree of labialization stands in an opposite relationship to the degree of the nearness of the vowel to the end of the

word, i.e., the nearer the round vowels are to the end of the word, the more they lose their roundness."

2.5.4.3. As for (1), it confirms the point already mentioned (see 2.4.3) about the disappearance of some vowels immediately before a stressed vowel as in [agzɨm]<[agɨzɨm]</agɨzɨm/ 'my mouth', etc.. Here, apparently, when the personal suffix is added, the last syllable attracts the main stress leaving the syllable from which stress has shifted with a weak (or in Akhundov's terms 'short') vowel to undergo syncope. This is identical with our view (2.4.3) except that there are restrictions to it, as it was pointed out in connection with Dämirchizadä's view of the existence of 'short' vowels in Azerbaijani. And as for (2), it is in agreement with the observation that 'in certain Finno-Ugric and Turkic languages. . .the vocalism of the first syllable is richer than the vocalism of all other syllables' (Trubetzkoy, 1969:98). Upon examination of the occurrence of the round vowels of Azerbaijani in the light of the quoted observation, we find that whereas all the four round vowels of Azerbaijani (i.e., /ü u ö o/ with the exception of the predictably formed mid round vowels [ö o] which occur in noninitial syllables, see 2.3.5-5), occur in the initial syllable (e.g., [düzgün] düzgün 'truthful', [guzgun] guzgun 'hawk', [gölüm] gölüm 'my lake', [golum] golum 'my arm'), only /ü/ and /u/ can occur in the noninitial syllable. Hence Akhundov's generalization is valid with respect to the nonoccurrence of the mid round vowels, not that of the high round vowels.

2.5.5. With no space to analyze the information on the history of the treatment of Azerbaijani consonants, and Akhundov's detailed articulatory description of each consonant, we shall refer in his treatment only to a few points of particular importance.

2.5.5.1. According to Akhundov text books on Azerbaijani generally give 23 consonants for Azerbaijani. Akhundov himself gives 25, because, unlike others, he includes in the consonant system of Azerbaijani a voiceless velar stop, and a velar nasal.

2.5.5.2. In his physiological/acoustic analysis of the Azerbaijani sound system Akhundov finds delicate differences which enable him to supplement this section with a statistical analysis. These are obviously far beyond the scope of our inquiry. However, the following five points from the results of his physiological/acoustic analysis seem to be important as a frame of reference for the phonological processes in Azerbaijani (p. 203):

1. All word-initial voiced consonants are voiceless in the beginning stage of their articulation.
2. All word-final consonants are voiceless in the final stage of articulation.
3. All consonants occurring after vowels are somewhat voiced in the initial stage of their articulation.
4. All consonants are labialized in accordance with their environment.
5. All consonants, in accordance with their environment are fronted, or made back, or nasalized to certain degrees.

2.5.6. In his phonological analysis of Azerbaijani consonants, Akhundov relies on articulatory criteria, though he is not averse to employing diachronic information where needed -- e.g., to distinguish an underlying voiceless consonant from an environmentally devoiced consonant (e.g., the /x/ from the [x] resulting from  $g \rightarrow [x]/\text{cvcv-}\#$ ). His first criterion for distinguishing Azerbaijani underlying consonants from

similar phonetic realizations, however, is the 'strong position,' i.e., the position before vowels. 'In this position, even if Azerbaijani consonants cannot keep their characteristics from 'anthropophonic' [? H.S.] point of view, they wholly preserve their phonological characteristics' (p. 221).

2.5.6.1. Akhundov analyzes the consonants in the same way that he analyzes the vowels, with respect to their sources, the contrasts they form with other consonants, their occurrence with other consonants, and their allophones.

2.5.6.2. From among the consonants, Akhundov's treatment of the affricates /č ʃ/ and the velar stops is of interest to us. We shall deal with these in our discussion of Azerbaijani underlying segments in Chapter 3. Briefly, Akhundov is aware that some Azerbaijani dialects (e.g., the Tabriz dialect) have [c ʒ] for the [č ʃ] in some other dialects of Azerbaijani (e.g., the Baku dialect). And his discussion of the palatal and velar stops has theoretical value with regard to the relationship of the palatal and velar stops.

2.5.6.3. From Akhundov's survey of the works of Northern Azerbaijani linguists we learn that the final palatal stop [k'] phoneme has received considerable attention. According to Akhundov the question whether or not [k'] is pronounced finally in polysyllabic words is a controversial issue in Azerbaijani linguistics (p. 248). Although Akhundov himself dismisses the view of the change of [k'] to [j] as unsatisfactory, we can appreciate the view of those Azerbaijani linguists such as M. Hüseyinzadə and Ä. Äfändizadə who hold that the word-final [k'] in polysyllabics changes to [j] before vowel initial words and suffixes. Akhundov's brief survey does not provide us with more information about Hüseyinzadə and Äfändizadə's

views on the final [k̑], yet the little we learn about their view seems to corroborate ours -- given above (2.4.7.3-9) on the question of [k̑] in the section devoted to Dämirschizadä's. But Akhundov rejects this view, because in words like [ǽkir]</ǽk+i/ 'he is planting,' [čǽkir]</čǽk+i/ 'he is drawing' and the loanword [fiziki]</fizik+i/ 'physical,' the prevocalic /k/ does not change to [j]. Yet this does not invalidate the fact that the final [k̑] does change to [j] before a vowel in polysyllabics, e.g., [čörǽji]</čörǽk+i/ 'the bread' (accusative). Generally speaking, final consonants in monosyllabic roots usually do not follow the same rule that governs the final consonants in polysyllabic words in Azerbaijani, e.g., [gab]</gab/ 'dish' but [bošgab]</bošgab/ 'plate'; [ad]</ad/ 'name' but [murat]</murad/ 'man's name'; [dag]</dag/ 'mountain' but (the monomorphemic) [budax]</budax/ 'branch of tree,' etc.. Further, if [k̑] does not change to [j] in fizik 'physics' in the dialect Akhundov describes, it must be because it is a nonnative learned word, though in my speech fiziki is [fiziji] especially as a noun in the accusative, although less so as an adjective.

2.5.6.4. Akhundov's view of the relation between the voiced velar stop and the voiced palatal stop is quite important from the viewpoint of generative phonology. The essence of his argument is that on the basis of backness/frontness of the vowels, we can predict the [-ant, -cor] stop to be a velar or a palatal stop. Our discussion of synharmony (3.2-8) owes its development to Akhundov's view of the relationship between the voiced velar stop and the voiced palatal stop.

2.5.6.5. As for his view of the voiceless velar stop, Akhundov belongs to that group of linguists who finds the voiceless velar stop in Azerbaijani -- a borrowing from Russian. In fact, Azerbaijani speakers

familiar with Persian, Arabic, Russian and other languages with a voiceless-velar stop do use the voiceless stop in not-fully-assimilated loans containing this sound. It is also phonetically produced through devoicing the voiced velar stop, as in [sæʁkgæɫ] </saggaɫ/ saggaɫ 'beard.'

2.5.6.6. Akhundov also insists upon positing a velar nasal phoneme which does not seem quite justifiable -- neither in the Northern Azerbaijani literary dialect nor in Tabriz speech.

2.6.1. Shiräliyev, 1967. Shiräliyev's valuable work seems to treat most of the sounds to be found in Azerbaijani dialects to the north of the Aras river. His treatment is also applicable to the sounds of Tabriz speech, and probably all Azerbaijani dialects to the south of the Aras.

2.6.2. In his treatment of the vowels Shiräliyev observes that in Azerbaijani dialects vowels may have long and short variants, and nasalized variants, too, are encountered.

2.6.2.1. Shiräliyev classifies Azerbaijani vowels with respect to:

(1) Frontness/backness:

(a) front vowels: i ( $\bar{i}$   $\check{i}$   $\tilde{i}$   $\underset{\sim}{i}$ )<sup>9</sup>, e ( $\bar{e}$ ), ü ( $\bar{ü}$   $\check{ü}$   $\tilde{ü}$ ), æ ( $\bar{\text{æ}}$   $\check{\text{æ}}$   $\tilde{\text{æ}}$ ),  
ö ( $\bar{\text{ö}}$ );

(b) back vowels: a ( $\bar{a}$   $\check{a}$   $\tilde{a}$ ), ı ( $\bar{\text{ı}}$   $\check{\text{ı}}$   $\tilde{\text{ı}}$   $\underset{\sim}{\text{ı}}$ ), o ( $\bar{o}$   $\check{o}$   $\tilde{o}$ ),  
u ( $\bar{u}$   $\check{u}$   $\tilde{u}$   $\underset{\sim}{u}$ );

(2) Openness/closedness:

(a) Open vowels: a ( $\bar{a}$   $\check{a}$   $\tilde{a}$ ), æ ( $\bar{\text{æ}}$   $\check{\text{æ}}$   $\tilde{\text{æ}}$ ), o ( $\bar{o}$   $\check{o}$   $\tilde{o}$ ),  
ö ( $\bar{\text{ö}}$ );

(b) closed vowels: ı ( $\bar{\text{ı}}$   $\check{\text{ı}}$   $\tilde{\text{ı}}$   $\underset{\sim}{\text{ı}}$ ), i ( $\bar{i}$   $\check{i}$   $\tilde{i}$   $\underset{\sim}{i}$ ), u ( $\bar{u}$   $\check{u}$   $\tilde{u}$   $\underset{\sim}{u}$ ),  
ü ( $\bar{ü}$   $\check{ü}$   $\tilde{ü}$ ), e ( $\bar{e}$ );

(3) Round/unroundness:

(a) round vowels: u ( $\bar{u}$   $\check{u}$   $\tilde{u}$   $\underset{\sim}{u}$ ), ü ( $\bar{ü}$   $\check{ü}$   $\tilde{ü}$ ), o ( $\bar{o}$   $\check{o}$   $\tilde{o}$ ), ö ( $\bar{\text{ö}}$ );

(b) unrounded vowels: a ( $\bar{a}$   $\tilde{a}$   $\ddot{a}$ ), æ ( $\bar{\text{æ}}$   $\tilde{\text{æ}}$   $\ddot{\text{æ}}$ ), ɨ ( $\bar{\text{ɨ}}$   $\tilde{\text{ɨ}}$   $\ddot{\text{ɨ}}$   $\text{ɨ}^j$ ),  
i ( $\bar{\text{i}}$   $\tilde{\text{i}}$   $\ddot{\text{i}}$   $\text{i}^j$ ), e ( $\bar{e}$ ).

2.6.2.2. This list of Azerbaijani vowels perhaps includes all the vowels occurring in different dialects of Azerbaijani. It is not clear, however, why Shirāliyev assigns the mid vowels /e/ and /o/ to different classes with respect to the feature 'open.' We find a similar enigma about Dämirchizadä's assigning /e/ to the class 'half-open' and /o/ to the class 'open' (see 2.4.1). In any case, neither from the point of view of tongue height, nor from the viewpoint of the openness of the lips may such classifications be supported.

2.6.2.3. Next, Shirāliyev examines the long vowels from the viewpoint of their source and their quality. Shirāliyev traces the long vowels used in Azerbaijani dialects to two sources: (1) Primary lengthening, (2) Secondary lengthening.

2.6.2.4. Long vowels by primary lengthening (the cause of which has not been explained in terms of the historical developments of the vowels) can be seen in a few Azerbaijani words in some Azerbaijani dialects. E.g., in [ $\bar{\text{sär}}^i$ ] 'yellow', [ $\bar{\text{gär}}^i$ ] 'old (female)', [ $\bar{\text{bär}}^i$ ] 'at least', [ $\bar{\text{mörux}}$ ] 'raspberries', in Nukha dialect; and [ $\bar{\text{gär}}^i$ ] 'old (female)', [ $\bar{\text{änr}}^i$ ] 'beyond, yonder', [ $\bar{\text{jēj}}$ ] '?' in the Gazakh dialect.<sup>10</sup> Whether they are underlyingly long or predictably lengthened, as already mentioned (see 2.4.4), long vowels occur also in a few words in Tabriz speech. In the Turkmen Language, too, there are long vowels which apparently contrast with nonlong vowels (see 2.5.2).

2.6.2.5. Long vowels by secondary lengthening are formed as a result of the deletion of an adjacent consonant. In the category of long vowels originating from secondary lengthening, Shirāliyev includes long



vowels originating in both native words and nativized loanwords. E.g., [ā] < aga 'sir', [āš] < agač 'tree', [ālim] < Arabic šālim 'learned', [dāva] 'fight' < Arabic daswā 'claim.'

2.6.3. Concerning the quality of the long vowels, Shirāliyev insightfully distinguishes between the single long vowels whose quality remains constant throughout its pronunciation (as in [sārī<sup>1</sup>] 'yellow', [gārī<sup>1</sup>] 'old (female)', [dāva] 'fight', [ādi] < Arabic šādi 'usual', [mā<sup>1</sup>lum] < Arabic mašlūm 'known', [kātīb-šātīb] < Arabic kātib 'scribe', [lālæ] < Persian lāle 'tulip') and 'diphthong-like vowels' whose quality does not remain the same throughout its pronunciation. Shirāliyev distinguishes three kinds in this category: (a) falling or decreasing 'diphthong-like vowels' whose last part gives the impression of weakening, and ending in closed labial vowels (e.g., [gō<sup>1</sup>un] govun 'melon', [sō<sup>1</sup>üt] söyüd 'willow', [dō<sup>1</sup>šan] dovšan 'rabbit')<sup>11</sup>; (b) rising or increasing 'diphthong-like vowels' the final part of which is strongly pronounced, and thus gives the impression of length (e.g., [sār<sup>1</sup>] < Arabic saħar 'morning', [šār<sup>1</sup>] < Persian šāhr 'city', [sāt] < Arabic sārat 'time, timepiece')<sup>12</sup>; (c) 'mixed diphthong-like long vowels' (e.g., [nō<sup>1</sup>üt] < Persian naft 'petroleum', [atō<sup>1</sup>uz] < /ata+nuz/ 'your father') (Shirāliyev, 1967:29-30). I fail to find any difference between the vowels in (a) and (c).

2.6.3.1. Shirāliyev may be right in finding three different kinds of 'diphthong-like vowels' (i.e. diphthongs in our terms). His triple diphthong system reflects the traditional classification of diphthongs into level, falling, and rising diphthongs (see Gleason, 1961:255). Perhaps (a) and (b) in (2.6.3) with due reservations (and certainly not in my speech), can be called examples of falling and rising diphthongs. This is on the assumption that in the dialect Shirāliyev describes, the

second underlying vowel in words like /gagun/ 'melon' and /sögüt/ 'willow' become [-syllabic], thus creating a diphthong whose vowel being lower (hence more sonorant than its high glide) is classified a falling diphthong.

2.6.3.2. Shiräliyev's 'mixed diphthong-like vowels' do not differ in my pronunciation. Again, provided that the final vowel in Shiräliyev's examples [atöüz]</ata+ng+i+z/ 'your father', [nööüt]<Persian näft 'petroleum', etc. becomes [-syllabic], the resultant diphthong, as in their formation [göün]</gagun/ 'melon' and [sööüt]</sögüd/ 'willow' in (a), will be falling diphthongs.

2.6.3.3. In Shiräliyev's examples [sǣr]<Arabic sahar 'morning', [sǟt]<Arabic säfat 'time, timepiece', however, we cannot see how it is possible to speak of 'diphthong-like vowels.' Unlike in /gagun/ 'melon' etc. where one of the vowels (i.e., the second vowel), apparently changes to the round glide (e.g., [göün] in the dialects Shiräliyev describes), there is no change of vowel quality in the words for 'morning', 'time-piece', etc. In these words the vowels are identical, either in the underlying representation as in /sǣhǣr/ 'morning', or become identical in the process of derivation as in [saat]<saʔat</sǟǣt/. Hence they cannot give rise to diphthongs which are produced 'when a sound is made by gliding from one vowel position to another' (Jones, 1956:22). In other words, the identical vowels whose almost uninterrupted pronunciation in the words for 'morning,' 'timepiece' etc. is described as 'rising diphthong-like vowels' by Shiräliyev, in fact, have in Trubetzkoy's words 'an immovable degree of aperture' (Trubetzkoy, 1969:117). Hence, they cannot produce diphthongs. Of course, nor does Shiräliyev call the syllabic part in the words for 'morning', 'timepiece' etc. diphthongs. However, apparently, what makes Shiräliyev call the syllabic part in the words for

'morning', 'timepiece' etc. a 'rising diphthong-like vowel' is that in these vowels 'the final part is strongly pronounced' (Shiräliyev, 1967:29). While this 'strong pronunciation' of the 'final part' of a syllabic part of a word (provided that the contiguous vowels constituting the syllabic part are not identical so that gliding from one vowel to the other is possible) is characteristic of rising diphthongs as in the French word [bwa] bois 'wood, forest', in connection with the words for 'morning', 'timepiece' etc. 'strong pronunciation' means pronunciation with primary stress. In other words, 'strong pronunciation' in the words for 'morning', 'timepiece', etc. whose respective identical vowels are low ([sææɾ] < /sæhæɾ/ 'morning', [saat] < saʔat < /sāʔæt/ 'timepiece') cannot mean a rise in sonority (which characterizes rising diphthongs), because this would imply greater degrees of aperture and sonority while the low vowels /æ a/ are maximally open and maximally sonorant (see Stampe 1972:579-80).

2.6.3.4. Consequently, it seems to us that the syllabic part in the words for 'morning', 'timepiece' etc. is a sequence of identical vowels. In this sequence the first vowel has the secondary stress and the second (i.e. the final) vowel has the primary stress. Perhaps it is this sequence of secondarily stressed vowel and primarily stressed vowel that gives the impression of a rising diphthong-like vowel to Shiräliyev's perception. To our perception, however, there is a sequence of vowels in words like the word for 'morning', 'timepiece' etc. The existence of a vowel sequence rather than a diphthong-like vowel is also proved by the existence of alternations like [sæhæɾ] ~ [sææɾ] 'morning', [sahat] ~ [saat] 'timepiece', [rahat] ~ [raat] 'comfortable', [ʃæhæɾ] [ʃææɾ] 'city', etc. where the intervocalic [h] shows that there are two vowels,

though in the pronunciation without [h], too, a vowel sequence, with the first vowel secondarily and the second primarily stressed, is perceptible.

2.6.3.5. In addition to 'diphthong-like long vowels', Shiräliyev describes 'diphthongs' in Azerbaijani dialects produced by the deletion of [j], [v], [n] (see 2.6.3.5-6). According to Shiräliyev there are two kinds of diphthongs in Azerbaijani: (1) (a) fully-falling diphthongs<sup>13</sup> consisting of [ou̯]/[öü̯], e.g., [gou̯n] 'melon' in Baku, Shamakhî, Mughan dialects, [nöü̯t] 'petroleum' in Baku, Shamakhî, Mughan dialects and Ikinji Shıkhlı speech of the Gazakh dialect, [au̯], e.g., [daı̯ga] 'rice and vegetable soup with yogurt' in the Ilisu and Gum speeches of the Gakh dialect, and [daı̯ʂan] 'rabbit' in the Ashagî Tala and Göyäm speeches of the Zagatala dialect, [oı̯]/[öı̯], e.g., [atoı̯] 'thy father', [anoı̯] 'thy mother', [dæ̯döı̯] 'thy father', [næ̯nöı̯] 'thy mother' in the Baku, Shamakhî, Mughan dialects, [æ̯ı̯], e.g., [mæ̯ı̯] 'me', [sæ̯ı̯] 'thee' in Hökmäli, Gobu, and Güzdäk speeches of the Baku dialect (Shiräliyev, 1967: 36-7), (b) half-falling diphthongs<sup>14</sup> consisting of [oū̯]/[öǖ̯] as in [döǖ̯ʂan] 'rabbit', [döǖ̯læ̯t] 'wealth, government', (2) rising diphthongs<sup>15</sup> consisting of [u̯a], e.g., [du̯ax] 'lid' in the Gazakh dialect, [u̯æ̯], e.g., [bü̯æ̯] 'tarantula' in the Tovuz and Gazakh dialects, [o̯a], e.g., [o̯a] < ova 'for hunting' in the Baku, Shamakhî, Mughan dialects, [ö̯æ̯], e.g., [ö̯æ̯] < övâ 'to home' in the Guba dialect.<sup>16</sup>

2.6.3.5.1. Concerning Shiräliyev's treatment of diphthongs three explanations are due: (a) how does the deletion of [j], [v], [n] create a diphthong, (b) what is a 'fully-falling' diphthong, (c) what is a 'half-falling' diphthong?

2.6.3.5.2.(a) Here our findings in the Tabriz dialect differ from Shiräliyev's in that Shiräliyev's examples (except for [ow] 'game',

[dowšan] 'rabbit', [döwla:t] 'wealth, government') in the Tabriz dialect have vowel sequences, not diphthongs, e.g., the word for 'melon' is [goun] ~ [gohun]. The difference between the phonetic forms cited by Shiräliyev, e.g., [goun] where the syllabic part of the word consists of a diphthong, and the forms occurring in Tabriz speech with a VV sequence like [goun] seems to be that whereas in the Tabriz forms the intervocalic segment is deleted leaving a VV sequence, in the forms cited by Shiräliyev, the VG sequence results from either the deletion of the intervocalic segment and the subsequent change of the second vowel in the resultant VV to the corresponding glide (see the derivation of [söwt] and [gown] in 2.6.3.5.2.1) or only by deletion of the vowel after the glide in the -VGV- part of the word (see the derivation of [söwt] and [gown] in 2.6.3.5.2.2). In other words, in the derivation of the Tabriz forms and the forms cited by Shiräliyev we assume the operation of the following rules.

(a)  $c \rightarrow [-vce]/vcv - \#$  (see 4.4.2)

(b)  $\left\{ \begin{matrix} g \\ j \end{matrix} \right\} \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{matrix} g \\ j \end{matrix} \right\} / v -$  (see 3.6.4.1)

(c)  $\left\{ \begin{matrix} g \\ j \end{matrix} \right\} \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{matrix} w \\ w \end{matrix} \right\} / - \left[ \begin{matrix} +sy1 \\ +rnd \end{matrix} \right]$  (see 2.3.5.5)

(d)  $[\text{+sy1}] \rightarrow [\text{+rnd}] / - \left\{ \begin{matrix} w \\ w \end{matrix} \right\}$  (see 2.3.5.5)

(e)  $\left\{ \begin{matrix} w \\ w \end{matrix} \right\} \rightarrow \emptyset / \left[ \begin{matrix} +sy1 \\ +rnd \end{matrix} \right] - \left[ \begin{matrix} +sy1 \\ +rnd \end{matrix} \right]$  (see 2.6.5.3)

(f)  $v \rightarrow [-sy1] / v -$  (inferable from the forms cited by Shiräliyev, p. 36)

(g)  $v \rightarrow \emptyset / G -$  (inferable from the forms cited by Shiräliyev, p. 36)

2.6.3.5.2.1. From Shiräliyev's examples [söwt] 'willow' (Chayli speech of the Gazakh dialect) and [goun] 'melon' (the Baku, Shamakhi, and Mughan dialects) two analyses may be inferred. The first includes the rules (a), (b), (c), (d), (g), as in the following derivation:

|       | 'willow' | 'melon' |
|-------|----------|---------|
| (RVS) | /sögüd/  | /gagun/ |
| (a)   | g<br>t   | -       |
| (b)   | j        | g       |
| (c)   | w        | w       |
| (d)   | -        | o       |
| (g)   | ø        | ø       |
|       | [söwt]   | [gown]  |

2.6.3.5.2.2. The second analysis, deducible from Shiräliyev's examples is slightly different in that in addition to the rules (a), (b), (c), (d), the rules (e) and (f), too, operate, as in the following derivation:

|       | 'willow' | 'melon' |
|-------|----------|---------|
| (RVS) | /sögüd/  | /gagun/ |
| (a)   | g<br>t   | -       |
| (b)   | j        | g       |
| (c)   | w        | w       |
| (d)   | -        | o       |
| (e)   | ø        | ø       |
| (f)   | w        | w       |
|       | [söwt]   | [gown]  |

Note that in the above derivations [söwt] and [gown] are given as [söüt] and [goun] in Shiräliyev's transcription.

2.6.3.5.2.3. In the Tabriz pronunciation the words for 'willow' and 'melon', on the other hand, are derived by the rules (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) as shown. Rules (f) and (g) are not part of Tabriz speech.

|       | 'willow' | 'melon' |
|-------|----------|---------|
| (RVS) | /sögüd/  | /gagun/ |
| (a)   | g<br>t   | -       |
| (b)   | j        | g       |
| (c)   | w        | w       |
| (d)   | -        | o       |
| (e)   | ∅        | ∅       |
|       | [söüt]   | [goun]  |

2.6.3.5.3. The above derivations also account for the deletion of [j] and [v] in which Shiräliyev sees diphthong formation. [j] and [v], apparently refer to phonemic representations like /söjüd/ and /govun/ obviously based on the orthographic forms söyüd 'willow' and govun 'melon.'

2.6.3.5.4. Shiräliyev (p. 37) cites [atoj̄]~[dædöj̄] 'thy father' (accusative), [anoj̄]~[nænöj̄] 'thy mother' (accusative) from the Baku, Shamakhî, Mughan dialects. The diphthong in these forms seems to result from the deletion of the second person singular genitive marker [n]. After the deletion of the [n] in these dialects the second vowel in the resultant VV sequence, apparently, becomes a glide. But in the Tabriz dialect the resultant VV sequence is separated by the insertion of the round glides. The difference between the forms cited by Shiräliyev and the Tabriz forms can be seen in the following derivations.

Baku, Shamakhi, Mughan

Tabriz

'thy father'

'thy father'

/ata+ng+i//dæ dæ+ng+i/ /ata+ng+i//dæ dæ+ng+i/

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{(RVS)} \\
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} +\text{sy} \\ \alpha\text{bk} \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{l} +\text{nas} \\ +\text{cor} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{l} -\text{cut} \\ +\text{hi} \\ +\text{vce} \\ -\text{stnd} \\ \alpha\text{bk} \end{array} \right] \Rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{l} +\text{rnd} \\ -\text{lo} \end{array} \right] \emptyset \left[ \begin{array}{l} -\text{cns} \\ +\text{rnd} \\ \alpha\text{bk} \end{array} \right] \\
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

(Glid-Del)(Inferable from Shirāliyev, p. 37)

(Glid-form)(3.11.2.26)

(MVC)(4.7.1)

|                 |                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| g               | g'              | g               | g'              |
| o $\emptyset$ w | ö $\emptyset$ w | o $\emptyset$ w | ö $\emptyset$ w |
| j               | j               | j               | j               |
| [atoj]          | [dædöj]         | [atuw]          | [dædüw]         |



This derivation seems to reflect a historic process because of the underlying /ng/ sequence whose simplification by the second rule is partially inferable from the relevant account by Shiräliyev (see note 17 to this chapter). The third and fourth rules and inferred from the [atoj] and [dædöj] cited by Shiräliyev.

2.6.3.5.5. As for the questions (b) and (c) above (in 2.6.3.5.1) from the majority of his cited examples it appears that by 'fully-falling' diphthongs Shiräliyev means the diphthongs which are underlyingly two vowels separated by a nonsyllabic segment; the fully-falling diphthong is formed (as noted in 2.6.3.5.2) either by the deletion of the intervocalic segment and the subsequent change of the second V in the resultant VV to G, or by the deletion of the vowel in the VGV sequence.

2.6.3.6. Finally, by 'half-falling' diphthongs, as the majority of his examples show, Shiräliyev intends the [ow] and [öw] diphthongs which also occur in Tabriz speech, e.g., the Baku, Shamakhi, Mughan [döyšan] 'rabbit', [döülæ t] 'wealth, government', the Tabriz [dowšan] 'rabbit', [döwlæ t] 'wealth, government'.

2.6.4. On the basis of the discussions in (2.6.3.5.1-6), it seems to us that some of the phonetically formed 'long vowels' are in fact vowel sequences, e.g., [toux] toyug 'hen', [soux] soyug 'cold', [söüt] söyüd 'willow', [böüx] böyük 'great', etc.. Although Azerbaijani linguists like Shiräliyev, Dämircizadä, and Akhundov find the syllabic part of these words diphthongs in the dialects they describe, we find it more consistent to describe them as vowel sequences in Tabriz speech for the following reason:

2.6.4.1. Words like [toux] 'hen', [söüt] 'willow', etc., are bisyllabic in Tabriz hence their syllabic part cannot consist of diphthongs,

because a diphthong is a combination of two vowels which form one syllable, in the form of a vowel plus a glide. In other words, the segmental structure of the syllabic part of the words [toux], [söüt], and the like, is different from the segmental structure of the syllabic part of the words like [dowšan] dovšan 'rabbit', [ow] ov 'game', [töwläæ] tövlä 'stable', etc.. Whereas in the former the deletion of an intervocalic nonsyllabic segment leaves a sequence of two vowels, in the latter a vowel is followed by a glide.

2.6.5. It seems that the question of the long vowels, diphthongs, and vowel sequences in Azerbaijani can be presented in a more logical way by discussing them as the result of the application of different phonological rules.

2.6.5.1. Phonetically long vowels, as opposed to the underlyingly long vowels, may appear in normal and mostly informal speech as a result of the deletion of an underlying [+cns, +bk, +vce] stop or the glottal stop or fricative, i.e., /g ? h/ by the application of the following rule of consonant deletion and vowel lengthening (VL).

$$(VL) \begin{matrix} [+syl] \\ \left[ \begin{matrix} +cns \\ \left[ \begin{matrix} +bk \\ +vce \\ -cnt \end{matrix} \right] \\ +lo \end{matrix} \right] \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} [-syl] \\ \Rightarrow \\ [+syl] \\ [+lng] \end{matrix} \quad \emptyset \quad (\text{normal and informal styles}) \\ \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{matrix}$$

This rule lengthens the vowel preceding the consonants /g ? h/ by deleting these segments, e.g., in [ōlan] </oglan/ 'boy', [būda] </bugda/ 'wheat', [tēran] </tehran/ Teheran, [tǣlīm] < [tæhlīm] < /tæʔlīm/ < Arabic taʔlīm 'teaching', [tǣsīr] < /tæʔsīr/ < Arabic taʔthīr 'effect', etc..

2.6.5.2. The diphthongs in Tabriz speech are [ow] and [öw], which

as already mentioned (note 6), are formed by the change of the postvocalic /v/ to [w/ṽ] followed by the labialization of the vowel preceding the [w/ṽ], by the following rule:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \text{(Diph)} & \left[ \begin{array}{c} +\text{syl} \\ \alpha \text{bk} \\ -\text{hi} \end{array} \right] & \text{v} & \left\{ \begin{array}{c} [-\text{syl}] \\ \# \end{array} \right\} & \Rightarrow & [+ \text{rnd}] & \left[ \begin{array}{c} -\text{cns} \\ -\text{ant} \\ +\text{hi} \\ +\text{rnd} \\ \alpha \text{bk} \end{array} \right] \\
 & 1 & 2 & 3 & & 1 & 2 & 3
 \end{array}$$

Note that the feature [-hi] in the vowel preceding the [v] is to exclude the application of this rule to words with high vowels preceding the [v], e.g., [gɪvrɪx] 'curly.'

This rule accounts for the following examples: [ow] < /av/ ov 'game', [buxow] < /buxav/ buxov 'fettors', [dowšan] < /davšan/ dovšan 'rabbit', [bilöw] < /bilev/ bilov 'whetstone', [töwlæ] < /tævlæ/ tövlä 'stable' < Arabic tawīla, [bæ nōwšæ] < bæ næ všæ < /bæ næ fšæ/ < Persian bānāfšæ 'violet.'

2.6.5.3. Vowel sequences are formed in Tabriz speech by the deletion of (1) [g], (2) [wṽ] derived from the underlying /g ḡ/, /v/, /j/ from between flanking vowels of the same specifications for backness, roundness and length, by the following rule:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} -\text{syl} \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c} -\text{cns} \\ \alpha \text{bk} \\ \beta \text{rnd} \end{array} \right] \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c} +\text{bk} \\ +\text{cnt} \\ +\text{vce} \end{array} \right] \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \emptyset / \left[ \begin{array}{c} +\text{syl} \\ \alpha \text{bk} \\ \beta \text{rnd} \\ -\text{lng} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c} +\text{syl} \\ \alpha \text{bk} \\ \beta \text{rnd} \\ -\text{lng} \end{array} \right]$$

This rule accounts for the formation of the vowel sequence as a result of the deletion of [w w g] in the following examples: [söüt] < söwüt < /sögüd/ söyüd 'willow', [toux] < towux < tagux <

/tagug/ toyug 'hen', [šūüt] < šuwüt < šiwid < šivid < /šivīd/ < Persian ševīd 'dill weed', [šöül] < göwül < [kónü] < /köngül/ könül 'heart, mind', [böüx] < böwüx < /böjük/ böyük 'great'.

2.6.6. Shirāliyev also explains the nature of the so-called short vowels in Azerbaijani. According to Shirāliyev (1) short vowels are closed vowels (i.e., /i/, /i̇/, /ü/, /u/), (2) they are produced in the unstressed syllable which is (a) the first syllable of the word (because Azerbaijani words almost always are stressed on the last syllable, see 4.2), e.g., [picáx] 'knife', [gıšdá] 'in winter', (b) the stem's last syllable from which stress has shifted to a suffix, e.g., [ʃældilǽr] < /gæ̃l+di+lar/ 'they came', [æ̃limǽ] < /æ̃lim+a/ 'to my hand'.

2.6.7. Shirāliyev's discussion of vowels is followed by important facts about vowel changes in different dialects of Azerbaijani.

2.6.8. Before examining Shirāliyev's treatment of the Azerbaijani consonants, we may mention an additional point about vowels in his analysis. Nasal vowels, according to Shirāliyev, constitute a widespread feature of Azerbaijani dialects in contradistinction to some Turkic languages (pp. 31-32). Nasal vowels, in those dialects of Azerbaijani which have them, have historically been developed from velar nasals by gradual deletion of the velar nasal after it has nasalized the vowels preceding and following it. E.g., [mãã], [æ̃lĩĩ], [aldĩĩz] in Nakha dialect, must have come from /maga/ 'to me', /æ̃lĩŋi/ 'thy hand', /aldĩŋiz/ 'you acquired', respectively (Shirāliyev, 1967:76-7).<sup>17</sup>

2.6.9. Shirāliyev treats those consonants which are found in the nonliterary dialects of Azerbaijani. Among these are the voiced and voiceless dental affricates [ʒ] and [c] which are also found in Tabriz speech. Of interest to us is that Shirāliyev, too, considers [c] and

[ɟ] as counterparts of [č] and [j] found in many dialects of Azerbaijani including the literary dialect. We argue in the next chapter that the Tabriz [cɟ] are underlyingly /č j/. This relationship between [cɟ] and /č j/ may exist not only in all Azerbaijani dialects with [cɟ], but also in all Turkic languages with [cɟ].

2.6.10. It is noteworthy that according to Shiräliyev, the lack of the voiceless velar stop and its substitution (in the nativized loans) with the voiced velar stop or the voiceless velar fricative is considered characteristic of Azerbaijani. Nevertheless, along with its existence in some unassimilated loanwords, the voiceless velar stop, which does exist in the majority of Turkic languages, can be encountered in the Western dialects of Azerbaijani, as well as in the Zagatala-Gakh dialects; in the latter the voiceless velar stop usually occurs in place of the voiceless palatal stop of other dialects of Azerbaijani, e.g., [kor] </kor/ (Tabriz [βor]) 'blind', [kagiz] </kagiz/ (Tabriz [βagaz]) 'paper', [komak] </kömæk/ (Tabriz [βömæβ]<sup>18</sup>) 'help', [okuz] </öküz/ (Tabriz [öβüz]) 'ox', [jeka] </jekæ/ (Tabriz [jeβæ]) 'big', [inak] </inæk/ (Tabriz [inæβ]) 'cow', etc. in the Zagatala-Gakh dialect and [kiš] </gış/ 'winter', [kifil] </gıfıl/ 'lock', [kuš] </guš/ 'bird' in the Western dialects (Shiräliyev, 1967:75).

2.6.11. After the section on consonants Shiräliyev provides a description of the changes of consonants in Azerbaijani. Although few of these are reflected in Tabriz speech, awareness of their existence is valuable because they provide for broader generalizations about consonant changes in Azerbaijani in general.<sup>19</sup>

2.6.12. Summary. One linguist (Akhundov) assigns 14 vowels, 2 diphthong vowels, and 25 consonants to Azerbaijani. The majority of the

linguists, whose analyses were examined, find nine vowels and 23 to 24 consonant phonemes plus 3 segments of phonemic status in Azerbaijani.

The following segment chart can be deduced from the study of the analyses of the other five linguists:

Consonants:

|   |   |    |      |     |
|---|---|----|------|-----|
| p | t | k' | (k)  | (?) |
| b | d | g' | g    |     |
| f | s | š  | (x') | x   |
| v | z | ž  | j    | g   |
|   |   | č  |      |     |
|   |   | ǰ  |      |     |
| m | n |    |      |     |
|   | l |    |      |     |
|   | r |    |      |     |

As it will be argued in the next chapter, the above consonants, except for [k'], [g'], [x'] and [ǰ], are underlying segments in this study.

Vowels:

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| i | ü | ı | u |
| e | ö |   | o |
| æ |   | a |   |

2.6.13. The foregoing review was intended to show the stage at which Azerbaijani phonology rests. The phonemic framework employed by the five linguists whose analysis of a particular dialect of Azerbaijani we examined seems to have left areas in need of a more convincing treatment. The following chapters attempt to present these unconvincing areas (such as the status of some segments considered 'phonemes' in the phonemic framework utilized in Azerbaijani phonology) in the light of generative phonology. Other points to be treated are the almost untouched question

of the status of 4 segments in Tabriz speech ([c ʒ β ʃ]) as characteristic of one group of Azerbaijani dialects versus another group of Azerbaijani dialects; a presentation of Azerbaijani phonological rules; and the process of nativization in Azerbaijani, mainly as the product of the native Azerbaijani rules applying to loanwords.

### Notes

<sup>1</sup>Moran 1945 cites cām [jām] '(wine-) glass, cup' as (obs.). If this word is obsolete then our [jām] vs. [jam] contrast does not exist. Similarly, perhaps a [fenā] 'dissolution' vs. [fena] 'bad' contrast does not exist because fenā [fenā], too, is labeled (rare) in Moran.

<sup>2</sup>According to Shirāliyev (1967:42-3), we find initial [j] (i.e., in initial syllable), mainly in Western Azerbaijani dialects though it is encountered also in Mughan, Julfa, Zagatala and Gakh speeches as well. E.g., [jldirim] 'thunderbolt' (Gazakh, Julfa, Sabirabad-Gasimbayli, Zagatala-Ashaghı Tala), [jşix] 'light' (Gazakh, Julfa, Sabirabad-Gasimbayli, Gakh), [jlxı] 'herd' (Gazakh, Julfa), [jlxı] 'herd' (Sabirabad-Gasimbayli, Gakh-İlisu, Gakh-Güllük), [jldiz] 'star' [[ulduz] in Tabriz and many other places. H.S.] (Gazakh, Julfa), etc. Shirāliyev further observes that this phenomenon is even more frequently seen in Turkmen, Tuvın and Turkish.

<sup>3</sup>According to Dämırchizadä, however, in some dialects of Azerbaijani the mid vowel [ö] occurs in the second and third syllables as well, e.g., [görsöz] 'if you see', [öjdödü] 'is at home' (in Baku), [görörüm] 'I see', [göröjsün] 'thou seest' (in Ayrım), [görör] 'sees' (in Gazakh), etc., (Dämırchizadä, 1972:56).

<sup>4</sup>The page and line references are to Kashghari 1072-3, Vol. I. The first number refers to page and the number after the hyphen to the line.

<sup>5</sup>The translator of Kashghari's work, following the Turkish practice of interpreting the Arabic letter ق as K (i.e. voiceless velar stop), has recorded the words for 'hoar-frost' and 'fetters' with K, i.e., kıragu and bukagu. The Arabic ق is interpreted as g (i.e. voiced velar stop) by many Türkic speakers including the Azerbaijanis.

<sup>6</sup>Since the earlier forms for the words 'calf', etc. are somewhat too different from their synchronic surface forms, it seems better to posit underlying forms with /v/ for such words, e.g., /bizav/ etc.. In this way we can do without a rule that has more historical value than synchronic, and the surface form [bizow] etc., can be derived by the same rule that derives [ow] < /av/ 'game', [dowšan] < /davšan/ 'rabbit', [bæ nōwšæ] (< [bæ næ vʃe]) < /bæ næ fʃe/ 'violet' etc.

The rule that can account for all these derivations is the rule of

diphthongization in the Tabriz dialect:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} +sy| \\ \alpha bk \end{array} \right] \\
 1
 \end{array}
 \quad
 v
 \quad
 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [-sy|] \\ \# \end{array} \right\} \\
 2 \quad 3
 \end{array}
 \Rightarrow
 \begin{array}{c}
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} +rnd \\ -lo \end{array} \right] \\
 1
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} -cns \\ -ant \\ +hi \\ \alpha bk \\ +rnd \end{array} \right] \\
 2 \quad 3
 \end{array}$$

<sup>7</sup>According to Baitchura 1975, Turkic languages fall into two groups with respect to the phonological significance of vowel length: (a) those in which vowel-length is phonemic as in Turkmen, Khakas, Yakut, etc., (b) those in which vowel length is nonphonemic, as in 'Kazan-Tatar, Mishar-Tatar, Mountain-Bashkir (proper), Ufa-Bashkir (or Lowland-Bashkir which is in reality part of Kazan-Tatar, Kazakh, Azerbaijani, and Chuvash' (88). In the latter group of the Turkic languages vowel-length is significant only from the viewpoint of instrumental phonetics. Here, generally speaking, low and mid vowels are longer than the high vowels 'at an average ratio of 2:1 in the corresponding position,' e.g., in Kazakh the length of [a] in [at] 'horse' is 38.8 S. (S = 1 sigma = 0,01 second or 10,0 milliseconds), whereas the length of [i] in [it] 'dog' is 18.3 S. (89). Nevertheless, in connection with stress this ratio is reversed, e.g., the length of [i] in stressed position in [ati] 'his horse' is 24.7 S., whereas the length of [a] in the same word is 12.0 S. (91).

However, the fact that vowel length is nonphonemic in Azerbaijani need not mean that underlying long vowels may not be posited. (For motivation of long underlying vowels see 3.10.2.3 and 3.10.2.4.)

<sup>8</sup>I have heard final [ʔ] in Southern Azerbaijan, and the following, too, can be found in the dialects of Northern Azerbaijan. Page references are to Shirāliyev (1967): Aghdaş region dialects: [gōræ:k] 'let us see' 378; Baku dialect: [gōræ:k] 'let us see' 362, [kæ:kliklæ:r] 'quails' 362, [cæ:kdi:g] 'we drew' 363; Göyçay region: [gæ:ʂæ:k] 'pretty' 377, [elæ:mæ:rik] 'we don't do' 377, [elijæ:k] 'let us do' 377, [bōjūk] 'great' 377; Märzä region dialects: [gedæ:k] 'let us go' 370, [gōrjæ:k] 'upon seeing' 370, [gæ:ræ:k] 'must' 370; Mughan dialects: [kiçik] 'small' 371, [gedæ:k] 'let us go' 374, [çōræ:k] 'bread' 370, [əgbirçæ:k] 'white haired woman'; Nakhchivan dialect: [æ:pbæ:k] 'bread' 401; Shahbuz region dialects: [gedæ:k] 'let us go' 403.

According to a Southern Azerbaijani speaker, in Khalkhal speech there is final k [ʔ], e.g., [çōræ:ʔ] 'bread', [inæ:ʔ] 'cow'. Interestingly, the final [k], in this dialect, apparently is neither voiced, nor spirantized. The informant was a Tabrizi speaker of Azerbaijani.

<sup>9</sup>Shirāliyev employs '- ' ˘ ' ˙ ' ˚ ' ˛ ' ˜ ' ˝ ' ˞ ' ˟ ' above a segment to designate it as lengthened, shortened, nasalized, unrounded, and fronted, respectively. And he employs '<' under a segment to designate its backness.

<sup>10</sup>Shirāliyev quotes the first four examples from: Ashmarin, N.I. 1926. Obshchij obzor narodnix tjurkskikh govorov gor. Nukhi. Baku; and he quotes the second three examples from Dzhangizadā, V.T. 1956. Osobnosti Dmanskogo govora azerbajdzhanskogo jazyka. Baku.



<sup>11</sup>Shiräliyev employs 'ˆ' under a segment to show that it does not constitute a syllable.

<sup>12</sup>The pronunciations [sæ̃r], [ʃæ̃r], [sät] do not represent Tabriz speech. The fact that such nativized loans, in Tabriz speech, have sequences of vowels rather than single long vowels has already been argued for (see 2.4.4.1-4). I find [sæhæ̃r] ~ [sæ̃æ̃r] 'morning', and [ʃæhr] 'city' in my speech, and I think I have heard [ʃæhæ̃r] ~ [ʃæ̃æ̃r] from other Tabrizi speakers of Azerbaijani. The derivation of [sæ̃æ̃r] < Arabic sahar 'morning' and [ʃæ̃æ̃r] < Persian šahr 'city' would be:

|                 |          |          |
|-----------------|----------|----------|
|                 | /sæhæ̃r/ | /ʃæhr/   |
| (i-ep)(4.7.6)   |          | i        |
| (HH)(P114)      |          | æ        |
| (Glt-WK)(4.7.4) | ∅        | ∅        |
|                 | [sæ̃æ̃r] | [ʃæ̃æ̃r] |

<sup>13</sup>According to Shiräliyev (p. 36) 'In the fully-falling diphthongs even if the second vowel is not 'fuller' [i.e., more sonorant H.S.] than the first vowel, the former preserves its characteristic.'

One wonders if this does not indicate that there are two distinct vowels rather than a diphthong at issue.

<sup>14</sup>According to Shiräliyev (p. 37) in the half-falling diphthongs, the second 'sound,' usually derived from [v] or [j], is pronounced very weakly, hence in phonetic transcription it is written above the level of the first vowel.

<sup>15</sup>Shiräliyev (pp. 37-8) observes that in the rising diphthongs the first 'sound' is weak whereas the second sound is 'fuller' (i.e. more sonorant) owing to the fact that the second sound is open whereas the first sound is closed or half-open.

<sup>16</sup>The words for 'tarantula,' 'for hunting,' 'to home,' etc. seem to be bisyllabic in Tabriz speech. As the following derivations show, in Tabriz speech the -VCV- part in the underlying representations of these words surface as -VGV-:

|                 |             |               |                       |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|
|                 | 'tarantula' | 'for hunting' | 'to home'             |
|                 | /buvæ̃/     | /av+a/        | /öv+a /               |
| (Diph)(2.6.5.2) | ṽ          | ow            | ṽ                    |
| (SVH)(4.1.1)    | [buvæ̃]     | [owa]         | [övæ̃ <sup>æ̃</sup> ] |

<sup>17</sup>The forms /maga/ 'to me', /æ̃lɪ̃ɟi/ 'thy hand', /aldɪ̃ɟiz/ 'you acquired,' etc., apparently do have nasal velar (palatal) in pronunciation, e.g., in the Gazakh dialect, a member of Western Azerbaijani dialects (Shiräliyev, 1967:76-7).

Shiräliyev's concise discussion of the development of the nasal vowels in Azerbaijani dialects is set in a concise illuminating context of the development of the velar (palatal) nasals, and the original forms which gave rise, among other developments, to the development of the velar (palatal) nasals, themselves.

According to Shiräliyev, on the basis of the earlier Turkic works, the velar nasal present in the Western group of Azerbaijani dialects, was in the form of the compounds ng, ng, ng. To this effect Shiräliyev cites the following examples from earlier Turkic works as well as Azerbaijani classics: [manğa] 'to me' (Kashghari I, 20-16), [sanğa] 'to thee' (Ibid. 391-18), [songük] 'end' (Ibid. III, 45-27; the [g̃] employed in Kashghari's translation is the voiced palatal stop which we represent by /g'/); [onga] 'to him' in Bakikhanov, A. [no date, place or page reference] *Kitabi-Äsgäriyyä*; [jengijæ] 'recently', in Akhundov, M.F. [no date]. *Works* vol. III:164; [songra] 'after' in Kazimbäy [no date]. *Därbändnamä*, p. 248. To these Shiräliyev adds the following words from contemporary Azerbaijani dialects: [songra] 'after' (The Guba dialect); [donguz] 'pig' (The Mughan group of speeches and the Nukha dialect); [dongar] 'hunched' (in the form of [donar] in the Nakhchivan dialect).

With this background of the existence of -ng-, -ng- in earlier Turkic works, the Azerbaijani classics, and contemporary Azerbaijani dialects, Shiräliyev finds that the compound underlying forms, in his words, 'have gradually been analyzed into their component segments; in one group of dialects the [ŋ] sound has prevailed, in another group of dialects the sounds [g, ɟ, ɟ']' (Shiräliyev, 1967:76).

Another important point is that according to Shiräliyev (p. 76):

The sound [g] has changed to [v] in some dialects, and to [j], as a result of softening, in other dialects. This process may thus be illustrated:

ng, ng, ng'  
 ↙    ↘  
 ŋ    ɟ

Western dialects and speeches [manğa] 'to me', [songra] 'after'

[maga] 'to me' (Zagatala-Gakh speech), [sogra] 'after' (in the speech of the Füzuli region), [otagız] (Jäbrayıl), [ælijiz] 'your hand' (Yerevan), [mæjæ] 'to me' (the Shamakhi dialect), [nænö] 'thy mother' (The Zagatala-Gakh, Guba and Southern Azerbaijani dialects and speeches.)

I wonder if [otagız] above means [atanız] 'your father' (literary) and [atuz] 'your father' (Tabriz). But if the word [otagız] means 'your room', it is not a suitable example to show the ng → g change, because in the underlying /otag+ung+uz/ the first /g/, too, can change to [g̃], in which case the [otagız] example will not illustrate the ng → g change.

Concerning [nænö] above, too, it is to be noted that Southern Azerbaijani does not include the Tabriz dialect because the word for

'thy mother' is not [næ:növ] but it is [næ:nün] in Tabriz.

With regard to the existence of the velar nasal, Shiräliyev groups Azerbaijani dialects into three groups: (a) the group which includes the Eastern dialects where the velar nasal is not used, (b) the group which includes the Western dialects where the velar nasal is widely used, (c) the group which includes the Nukha, Zagatala-Gakh, Nakhchivan, and Ordubad dialects where the velar nasal having nasalized the adjacent vowels has been gradually deleted.

When we examine the Tabriz dialect in the light of the above description we find that it falls within the group (a) where the velar nasal is not employed, except in a few words like [dangaz] dangaz 'obstinate', [baŋka] < Russian banka 'jar', by nasal assimilation.

The Tabriz dialect and the literary dialect seem to belong to the group of Azerbaijani dialects which have lost the palatal/velar segment in the earlier [-ng-, -ng-, -ng-] sequences in the majority of the cases.

<sup>18</sup>In normal and informal speech [ʃ<sup>2</sup>] word-finally and preconsonantly is [x].

<sup>19</sup>E.g., the rule of spirantization of the stops (to be discussed in Chapter 4 along with other rules) apparently applies only to [k̟] and /g/ in Tabriz speech, whereas Shiräliyev's treatment of consonant changes in different dialects of Azerbaijani shows that spirantization applies even to bilabial stops, e.g., [kitaf] (Gazakh, Gänjä, Garabagh, Nukha, Shahbuz) versus [ʃitap] (Tabriz) < Arabic kitab 'book'; [boʃgaf] (Gazakh, Gänjä, Garabagh, Nukha) vs. [boʃgaf] (Tabriz) < /boʃgab/ 'plate'. This change which according to Shiräliyev occurs in Northern and Western dialects of Azerbaijani, follows the same rule that accounts for the spirantization of palatal and velar stops in many other dialects of Azerbaijani, including Tabriz speech. Thus a general rule of spirantization in Azerbaijani should cover all stops and affricates. Such a rule is readily deducible from Northern and Western dialects of Azerbaijani. In sum, while in certain dialects of Azerbaijani like the Tabriz dialect only affricates and high stops undergo spirantization, in many other dialects of Azerbaijani the rule of spirantization applies to all the stops and affricates.

Similarly, devoicing in Azerbaijani in general is broader than that reflected in Tabriz speech. E.g., [uldus] (Gazakh, Mughan) vs. [ulduz] (Tabriz) ulduz 'star'; [doggus] (Gazakh, Mughan, Norashen-Givrag) vs. [dokguz] (Tabriz) dogguz 'nine'; [sækkis] (Norashen-Givrag) vs. [sækkiz] (Tabriz) säkkiz 'eight'.

Tabriz speech appears to be among those which seem to have a rule of voicing the word-final voiceless alveolar fricative /s/. We see the operation of this voicing rule in Tabriz speech in such words as [araz] < Persian aras 'The Araks river', [ætla:z] < Arabic atlas 'silk satin', [xoruz] < Persian xurus 'rooster', [nærviz] < Persian närqes. In other Azerbaijani dialects the /s/ in the cited words is not voiced, e.g., [aras], [atlas] (Gazakh), [xoruz] (Gazakh, Mughan). But there are also instances where the /s/ does not undergo voicing in Tabriz speech while -

it does in other dialects, e.g., [æɫmas] < Arabic almās 'diamond' in Tabriz vs. [almaz] in the Northern literary dialect.

## CHAPTER III

### AZERBAIJANI PHONOLOGICAL SEGMENTS

3.1 In this chapter the underlying segments of Azerbaijani are presented.

In Turkic languages, including Azerbaijani, there is a relationship between the high consonants and the vowels. Some high consonants occur with front vowels and some with back vowels. In the following paragraphs we examine two approaches utilizing this relationship for positing two rather than four high, noncontinuant, nonstrident segments for Azerbaijani.

3.1.1 It is possible to posit the deepest morphophonemic representations of |K G|, which will not be fully specified in the lexicon, to derive the Tabriz [ $\hat{f} \hat{g} k g$ ] and Baku [ $k' g' k g$ ] as can be seen in section 3.2. But in the derivation of [ $\hat{f} \hat{g} k g$ ]/[ $k' g' k g$ ] (which corresponds to Schane's (1971) phonetic level) from |K G| (which corresponds to Schane's morphophonemic level) there is also the intermediate stage / $k' g' k g$ / (which corresponds to Schane's phonemic level). In other words, we may assume a derivation like |K G| > / $k' g' k g$ / > [ $k' g' k g$ ]/[ $\hat{f} \hat{g} k g$ ].

3.2. Attention to the environment of the alveopalatal retroflex affricate [ $\hat{f} \hat{g}$ ] in Tabriz speech (and the palatal stops [ $k' g'$ ] in many other dialects of Azerbaijani, e.g., the Baku dialect) on the one hand and the velar [k g] on the other hand seems to indicate that despite the surface difference, both the nonvelar, i.e., [ $\hat{f} \hat{g}$ ]/[ $k' g'$ ] and the velar [k g] are derivable from a pair of underlying [+cns, -syl, +hi, -cnt, -strid] segments.

3.2.1. The derivability of both the nonvelar  $[\hat{f} \hat{g}'] / [k' g']$  and the velar  $[k g]$  from the underlying  $[+cns, -syl, +hi, -cnt, -strid]$  segments  $[K G]$  is based on the fact that the nonvelar  $[\hat{f} \hat{g}'] / [k' g']$  occur in the environment of the front vowels, and the velar  $[k g]$  occur in the environment of the back vowels. In Azerbaijani as a Turkic language the occurrence of the alveopalatal retroflex affricates/palatal stops with the front vowels and the velar stops with the back vowels is linguistically significant. The significance is that words otherwise segmentally identical can differ in meaning owing to their difference in having the nonvelar  $[\hat{f} \hat{g}'] / [k' g']$  with front vowels or the velar  $[k g]$  with the back vowels. E.g., while they share the pattern

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} v \\ [+lo] \end{array} r \left[ \begin{array}{c} +cns \\ -syl \\ +hi \\ -cnt \\ -strid \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} v \\ [+hi \\ -rnd] \end{array} n \right],$$

the words  $[\text{æ}r\hat{f}in]/\text{æ}r\hat{g}in$  'melted' and  $[\text{a}r\hat{g}in]$  'feeble' differ in that  $[\text{æ}r\hat{f}in]/[\text{æ}r\hat{g}in]$  has front vowels and a nonvelar consonant, and  $[\text{a}r\hat{g}in]$  has back vowels with a velar consonant.

3.2.2. This phenomenon is known as synharmony. In Trubetzkoy's (1969:285) words, 'synharmony consists in that each word in a particular language can either contain only front vowels and palatalized consonants or only back vowels and velarized consonants.'

3.2.3. Synharmony may be formulated as:

$$(s) \left[ \begin{array}{c} +cns \\ -syl \\ +hi \\ -cnt \\ -strid \end{array} \right] \rightarrow [ \llbracket bk \rrbracket / \left[ \begin{array}{c} +syl \\ \llbracket bk \rrbracket \end{array} \right]$$

This means that the high, nonstrident consonants (i.e.,  $[K G]$ ) in their feature for backness/frontness agree with the vowel preceding or follow-

ing them. (S) contains Bach's (1968) 'neighborhood convention' and thus represents the collapsing of two rules (a) and (b):

$$(a) \begin{bmatrix} +cns \\ -syl \\ +hi \\ -cnt \\ -strid \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [\alpha \text{ bk}] / \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ \alpha \text{ bk} \end{bmatrix} (c) \text{---}$$

3.2.4. Rule (a) shows that the high, nonstrident consonants  $|K G|$  agree in the feature for backness/frontness with the preceding vowel. This rule applies in  $[\text{æ}j\text{mæ}] < /\text{æ}^g\text{mæ} / < |\text{æ}G\text{mæ}|$  'arc',  $[\text{og}l\text{an}] < /ogl\text{an} / < |oGl\text{an}|$  'boy',  $[\text{æ}ri\acute{x}] < /\text{æ}ri\acute{k} / < |\text{æ}riK|$  'apricot',  $[\text{ari}\acute{x}] < /ari\acute{g} / < |ari\acute{G}|$  'lean',  $[\text{ac}i\acute{x}] < /a\acute{c}i\acute{g} / < |ac\acute{i}G|$  'open',  $[\text{iti}\acute{x}] < /iti\acute{k} / < |iti\acute{K}|$  'lost'.

$$(b) \begin{bmatrix} +cns \\ -syl \\ +hi \\ -cnt \\ -strid \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [\alpha \text{ bk}] / \text{---}(c) \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ \alpha \text{ bk} \end{bmatrix}$$

3.2.5. Rule (b) states that the high nonstrident consonants, i.e.,  $|K G|$  agree in the feature for backness/frontness with the following vowel, e.g.,  $[\text{g}^{\text{h}}\text{ö}l] < /g^{\text{h}}\text{ö}l / < |G\text{ö}l|$  'pond',  $[\text{g}o\text{l}] < /go\text{l} / < |Go\text{l}|$  'arm',  $[\text{β}ü\text{l}] < /kü\text{l} / < |Ku\text{l}|$  'ash',  $[\text{kuran}] < /kuran / < |Kuran|$  < French Courant 'current, draught',  $[\text{ver}^{\text{h}}\text{i}] < /ver^{\text{h}}\text{i} / < |ver^{\text{h}}Gi|$  'gift, tax',  $[\text{al}g\text{i}] < /al\text{g}i / < |al\text{G}i|$  'purchase, perception, prize.'

3.2.6. It should be mentioned, however, that synharmony is not exceptionless. Synharmony is not observed in a handful of native words as well as a considerable number of loanwords. E.g., we find native words like  $[\text{gæ}r\text{dæ}\acute{\zeta}]$  'brother',  $[\text{ge}j\text{in}]$  'brother-in-law',  $[\text{gæ}m\text{i}\acute{\zeta}]$  'reed',  $[\text{gæ}\text{ʒ}\text{æ}l\text{æ}] / [\text{gæ}\text{ʒ}\text{æ}l\text{æ}]^2$  'maggie',  $[\text{β}o\text{l} - \text{β}os] / [\text{k}o\text{l} - \text{k}os]^2$  'undergrowth',  $[\text{ti}\text{β}an] / [\text{ti}\acute{k}an]$  'thorn' where a voiced velar stop occurs in the environment of a front vowel or an alveopalatal retroflex affricate/palatal stop occurs in the environment of a back vowel. Similarly, we

encounter numerous loanwords like [gælb] <Arabic qalb 'heart' and [ʃasa]/[kasa] <Persian kāse 'bowl' where as in the case of the native examples just cited, a voiced velar stop occurs with front vowels and an alveopalatal retroflex/palatal stop occurs with back vowels.

3.2.7. Yet, perhaps with the exception of a few native words like [gæʒæ læ]/[gæʒæ læ] 'magpie', [ʃol-ʃos]/[kol-kos] 'undergrowth', etc., where the reason for the lack of synharmony is not clear, it seems that the other exceptions to synharmony can be explained or at least defined. In some cases it can be shown that a particular exception to synharmony is only superficially so, because underlyingly the word conforms to synharmony, e.g., the word [gærdæʃ] 'brother' in many dialects, including the literary dialect, is [gardaʃ] and underlyingly, too, /gardaʃ/. Furthermore, in a particular dialect, as in the Tabriz dialect, an exception to synharmony may have a clear phonological reason such as the raising and fronting of the vowels in the environment of the voiced palatal fricative as in [gejin] gayin<sup>4</sup> 'brother-in-law', where the lack of synharmony results from the raising and fronting of the /a/ preceding the /j/ and the fronting of the /i/ in /gajin/. The lack of synharmony may also result from partial nativization as in [ʃasa]/[kasa] <Persian kāse 'bowl' where although the velar stop has changed to the alveopalatal retroflex affricate/palatal stop the vowels are back, or as in [gælb] <Arabic qalb 'heart' where nativization has not advanced beyond changing the Arabic uvular stop /q/ to the Azerbaijani voiced velar stop /g/, and the Arabic low central vowel /a/ to the Azerbaijani low front vowel /æ/.<sup>5</sup>

3.2.8. Thus, presently it seems that exceptions to the rule of synharmony are confined to the partially nativized loans and the few



native words with not fully clear underlying representations. Upon the recognition of the underlying forms of the native 'exceptions' and the rule(s) responsible for the lack of synharmony in them, the exception to synharmony will be restricted to the loanwords lacking synharmony. Considering, however, that loans, too, form a definable class, with rule-governed, hence predictable, distance from the expected synharmony, they, too, will hardly deserve the label 'exceptions.'

3.2.9. Nevertheless, even after it is established that the apparent exceptions are fully explainable, it will be necessary somehow to differentiate the synharmonic words from the superficially unsynharmonic ones. To this end, it can be assumed that in the spirit of Lightner's (1965) proposal, each root is marked for the abstract feature [+BACK]/[-BACK] which specifies the participation of both the vowels and the [+cns,-syl,+hi,-cnt,-strid], i.e., the |K G| segments in synharmony by a rule like:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [+syl] \\ +cns \\ -syl \\ +hi \\ -cnt \\ -strid \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow [\alpha bk] / [\alpha BACK]$$

3.2.10. This rule modeled on a similar rule by Lightner for 'vowel and consonant harmony' (i.e., synharmony) in classical Mongolian, states that the backness/frontness of the vowels and the [+cns,-syl,+hi,-cnt,-strid], i.e., |K G| segments in a word is determined by the abstract feature [+BACK]/[-BACK] which is an idiosyncratic property of each root (Lightner 1965:247-8).

However, the abstract root marking solution does not seem to account for the facts quite plausibly. First, it fails to reflect the fact that synharmony is largely dependent on vowel harmony, whereas the root marking solution determines backness for both vowels and [+cns,

-syl,+hi,-cnt,-strid] segments simultaneously. Secondly, the abstract root marking solution by leaving segments unspecified for backness is rejected by the theory of markedness which requires full feature specification of the underlying segments.

The inadequacy of the abstract root marking solution can be seen once we notice the independence of the vowel harmony and the dependence of synharmony on vowel harmony. The independence of vowel harmony is reflected in pairs like [darɨ] 'millet' (in Tabriz [dari] by (3.11.2.1.3)) and [dæri] 'skin'; [sɨnmax] 'to be broken' and [sinmæx̣] 'to be absorbed' (Tabriz [sinmax]); [uzun] 'long' and [üzün] 'thy face'; [olumsuz] 'negative' and [ölümsüz] 'deathless'. As such examples show, since vowel harmony obtains independently, i.e., since both back and front vowels do occur with nonhigh consonants, in other words, since the backness feature in vowels is not conditioned by the nonhigh consonants in morphemes, then in the morphemes with high consonants, too, vowels must be independently back/front. E.g., by this reasoning, just as in [darɨ] 'millet' and [dæri] 'skin', etc., the vowels are back/front independently of the consonants in the morphemes, the vowels in [gol] 'arm' and [göl]/[g̟öl] 'lake', too, must be back/front independently of the high consonants [g] and [g̟]. This means that backness/frontness of vowels in morphemes is independent of the backness/frontness influence of the consonants. However, since in words like [gol] 'arm', [göl]/[g̟öl] 'lake' there exists, between the vowels and consonants backness/frontness harmony (i.e., synharmony), we may conceive of this phonologically significant synharmony as the assimilation of the high stops to the vowels in the feature for backness. In this case vowels must be fully specified for every feature. This is already superior to the abstract root marking solution which

accounts for the feature backness in both the vowels and high consonants of a morpheme by an abstract feature [+BACK]/[-BACK]. The superiority of the full specification of vowels over the abstract root marking solution is that the former is based on phonological facts (as discussed above in this paragraph) whereas in the abstract root marking solution the mechanism is nonphonological. In this respect Kiparsky's observations about the feature GRAVE employed by Lightner (1965) is noteworthy. Kiparsky observes that the abstract feature GRAVE is not a phonological feature, rather, it is an abstract feature which is mapped onto the phonological feature [ $\pm$ back]. According to Kiparsky 'the [phonological] theory expresses no connection between the abstract feature GRAVE and the corresponding phonological feature, apart from the purely arbitrary one contained in the mapping rule of vowel harmony' (41).

Nevertheless, full specification of the vowels is not sufficient. In accordance with the theory of markedness, the high consonants, too, like any other segment appearing in the underlying representation should be fully specified.

The specification of the high consonants can be in one of the following two ways. First, the recognition of a pair of [+hi, -bk, -cnt, -strid] consonants (i.e., the palatal /k' g'/) and another pair of [+hi, +bk, -cnt, -strid] consonants (i.e., the velar /k g/). This is the traditional solution which for its neglect of synharmony is not employed in this study.

As already mentioned, since synharmony results from the backness assimilation of the high stops to the nearby vowel, it is possible to posit one pair of fully specified underlying high stops, i.e., either [+hi, +bk, -cnt, -strid] or [+hi, -bk, -cnt, -strid] and derive the other

pair by assimilation in the word. This constitutes the second approach to the full specification of the high stops. Here the relevant question is this: which pair should the fully specified underlying high stops be? Should it be the palatal /k' g'/ or the velar /k g/? The answer is that according to the theory of markedness velar stops are less highly marked, i.e., more expected than the palatal stops. Hence the velar stops /k g/ can be posited as underlying high stops in Azerbaijani.

3.2.11. These underlying velar /k g/ will surface by the following rule of the realization of the velar stops (RVS):

$$(RVS) \begin{bmatrix} +cns \\ +bk \\ -cnt \\ \langle +vce \rangle \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-bk] / \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ -bk \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle$$

This rule is a collapsed form of the following two rules. One of them is the context free voiceless velar stop fronting (VSF):<sup>6</sup>

$$(VSF) \begin{bmatrix} +cns \\ +bk \\ -cnt \\ -vce \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-bk]$$

which says that in Azerbaijani dialects in all environments the voiceless velar stop is realized as the voiceless palatal stop.<sup>7</sup>

The other rule is that of voiced velar stop synharmony (VSS):

$$(VSS) \begin{bmatrix} +cns \\ +bk \\ -cnt \\ +vce \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-bk] / \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ -bk \end{bmatrix}$$

which on the basis of Bach's (1968) 'neighborhood convention' states that the voiced velar stop is realized as the voiced palatal stop before or after front vowels.

In some dialects of Azerbaijani, including the Tabriz dialect the rule of (RVS) is followed by the dialect-specific Tabriz context free

rule of (TCFR) which changes the palatal stops  $[k' g']$  to the alveopalatal retroflex affricates  $[\beta' \phi']$ .

The synharmonically unexpected occurrence of the velar stops with front vowels mentioned in (3.2.6 - 3.2.8) can be accounted for by marking in the very few lexical items the unexpected high stop minus the rule of velar stop realization, e.g., /kuran/ < French courant 'current, draught', /klas/ [-RVS] French classe 'classroom', /qæ laæ m/ < Arabic qalam 'pen', /qæ jæ laæ / [-RVS] 'magpie', etc.

3.2.12. The rule (RVS) is followed by the dialect specific Tabriz context free rule of (TCFR) (which changes  $[k' g']$  into  $[\beta' \phi']$ ):

$$(TCFR) \begin{bmatrix} +cns \\ -syl \\ -cnt \\ +hi \\ -bk \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -hi \\ +cor \\ +strid \end{bmatrix}$$

3.2.13. Henceforth whenever we refer to  $[k' g']$  and  $[\beta' \phi']$  as the phonetic realizations of the underlying velar /k g/, the operation of the rule of (RVS) for the derivation of  $[k' g']$ , and the operation of the rule of (TCFR) (3.2.12) for the derivation of  $[\beta' \phi']$  is presupposed.

3.3. With the exception of the segments /ç j/ and the special case of the relationship between the velar /k g/ and their surface forms, largely predictable by the process of synharmony (see 3.2.1 - 11), the underlying and surface representations of Azerbaijani consonantal segments are, to a great extent, identical. Their classificatory feature matrices given in Table 1 below will suffice to introduce them.

3.4. Explanations. In addition to the points already mentioned in chapter 2 about Azerbaijani sounds in the Tabriz dialect, it should be noted that:

3.4.1. As can be seen from Table 3, there are two nasal segments

in Tabriz speech, a bilabial nasal [m] and an alveolar nasal [n], e.g., [mæ:n] 'I'. The alveolar nasal has dental and velar variants by way of assimilation, as in [iɲdi] indi 'now', [tɔŋgal] tɔŋgal 'bonfire', [baŋka] <Russian banka 'jar'.

3.4.2. In the environment of the front vowels the alveolar lateral [l] is slightly palatalized and in the environment of the back vowels it is slightly velarized.

3.4.3. The voiceless velar stop [k] is predictable in native words by devoicing of the voiced velar stop (see note 6); and the voiced alveopalatal fricative [ʒ] is predictable by the rule of spirantization to be presented later. [k] and [ʒ] in loanwords, however, are not predictable, hence, in these, they need to be posited as underlying segments /k/ (see 3.1) and /ʒ/.

3.4.4. There is a transition segment [y] which connects a vowel-final stem with a vowel-initial suffix (see 3.11.2.2 - 1.2).

3.4.5. The segments [w] and [w̥] are glides derived from /v/ after vowels (see 2.6.5.2 - 3) or produced by the rounding of the voiced palatal and velar fricative (derived from the voiced palatal and velar stops) after round vowels (See rules (b-c), p.45, and 2.6.5.3). ([w] is also derived from [v] </f/ after round vowels, e.g., [bæ:nöwʃæ:] <bæ:næ:vʃæ: </bæ:næ:fʃe/.)

3.4.6. The segment /r/ is a voiced alveolar flap [r] between low vowels ([ara] 'middle', [æ:ræ:] 'saw') and back vowels ([ora] 'there', [bura]~[bɪra] 'here'); a voiced alveolar flap in free variation with a voiced alveolar fricative [ʀ] initially ([ʀæ:him] 'merciful', [ʀahat] 'comfortable') and before high and mid vowels ([di:ri] 'living', [jeri] 'Walk!', [sü:ri] 'flock'); and a voiced retroflex strident fricative [ʒ]

preconsonantly and word-finally ([jaʒpɹz] 'pennyroyal', [naʒ] 'pomegranate').

3.4.7. The voiceless uvular stop of Arabic loans (i.e. [q]) and the voiceless velar stop ([k]) of loanwords are replaced by the voiced velar stop [g] when they are nativized in Azerbaijani.

3.4.7.1. The Arabic uvular stop which has entered the Persian segment inventory in the form of a voiced uvular stop, can be found in the segment inventory of some (in fact very few) Azerbaijani speakers who have been exposed to strong Persian influence since childhood. In the speech of such individuals we find [q]~[g] in free variation.

3.4.7.2. But the voiceless velar stop has entered the segment inventory of bilingual and polyglot Azerbaijani speakers in some loans, e.g., [kɪlas] < French classe 'classroom', [kār̥æ̆r] < Persian Kārgær 'worker'.

3.4.8. In formal style glottal stop replaces the voiced pharyngeal fricative in the Arabic loans, e.g., [sāʔæt] < Arabic sāʔat 'time, timepiece', though in thoroughly nativized Arabic loans the glottal stop is deleted, e.g., [saat] 'time, timepiece'. The word-initial glottal stop and voiced pharyngeal fricative of the Arabic loans do not occur in the Azerbaijani underlying representations.

3.4.9. In terms of symmetry, the Azerbaijani vowel chart shows a gap because of the lack of a mid back unrounded vowel.

3.5. To return to the subject of 3.3., /č ʃ k' g'/ do not surface as such in the Tabriz dialect. The palatal stops /k' g'/ surface like the retroflex affricates [ʃ̠ ʧ̠], and the alveopalatal /č ʃ/ surface like the dental [c ʒ] in the Tabriz dialect as well as in some dialects of Azerbaijani. Since this difference between underlying and surface segments

is always present in Tabriz speech, we could posit /cɟʙʁ/ as the underlying segments but there are at least two reasons which seem to favor a difference between the underlying and the surface forms:

3.5.1. First, apparently in the majority of Turkic languages and Azerbaijani dialects, the underlying segments proposed here exist as both underlying and surface representations. Furthermore, Tabriz dialect is a main dialect of Azerbaijani. Hence in order not to overlook the basic phonological relationship between the Tabriz dialect and the other dialects of Azerbaijani, it seems necessary to posit a set of underlying segments common to all Azerbaijani dialects.

3.5.2. Secondly, it seems to be more consistent with the theory of generative phonology adopted here to consider /č ʝ k ɡ/ as part of the general Azerbaijani underlying segment inventory, and derive [cɟʙʁ] by phonological rules acting upon the underlying segments.<sup>8</sup>

3.5.3. The view that [č ʝ k ɡ] and [cɟʙʁ] are phonetic representations of the same set of 'letters' č ʝ k ɡ or 'phonemes' /č ʝ k ɡ/ seems to have been the tacit assumption of all the traditional phonological treatments of Azerbaijani. This apparently has been considered so obvious that few linguists have felt any need to mention it. Of those who have referred to it, Azər Hüseynov (Akhundov 1973:244) considers [c] as a variant of /č/. According to Hüseynov, [c] and [č] differ in that [c] is a fronted variant of /č/. But Akhundov himself does not agree with Hüseynov. Akhundov considers /c/ as an independent phoneme of Ordubad speech.<sup>9</sup> But we think when we consider the argument which Akhundov employs in calling [c] a 'phoneme', we may be able to use the same argument for proving [c] to be a surface realization of what we consider to be the underlying segment /č/.



3.5.4. But before considering Akhundov's view, let us consider three additional points which seem to confirm Hüseynov's view: First, Assaturian (1958) in his Azerbaijani phonemic inventory gives /ç ʃ k' g'/, not /c ɟ ʒ k'/. He mentions, in footnotes, however, that these sounds, i.e., /ç ʃ k' g'/ are extremely fronted by some Azerbaijani speakers. With respect to /g' k'/, i.e., the palatal stops, as we have already seen (2.1.4), Assaturian says: 'the two phonemes /g<sup>y</sup>/ and /k<sup>y</sup>/ are so strongly palatalized and fronted with some speakers, especially in Tabriz, Ardabil and other areas of Iranian Azerbaijan, that they sound almost like /d<sup>y</sup>/ and /tʃ/ respectively. The informant for this thesis was free of such an articulatory tendency' (p.36,fn.9). It seems that this quotation alone supports our point that we should not posit different underlying segments for each dialect of Azerbaijani. Assaturian aptly talks of /g<sup>y</sup>/ and /k<sup>y</sup>/ as Azerbaijani phonemes (in terms of generative phonology systematic phonemes), and distinguishes Tabriz, Ardabil, etc., versions of them with the 'articulatory tendency' of palatalizing and fronting. Furthermore, it is inferable from Assaturian's sentence that in the areas where palatalization and fronting form the dominant 'articulatory tendency' there are speakers 'free of such articulatory tendency.' Assaturian does not identify his Azerbaijani informant beyond 'Mr. Y.K. who generously gave his time and assistance for the analysis of the Azeri Turkish' (p.vii). There seems, however, to be considerable evidence for Mr. Y.K.'s being from Southern Azerbaijan. In this case, if his speech 'was free of such an articulatory tendency', and as it can be gathered from Assaturian's statement, there are others like Mr. Y.K., then we have both strongly palatalized and fronted [k<sup>y</sup> g<sup>y</sup>] (i.e., [ʃ kʰ]) and palatal [k<sup>y</sup> g<sup>y</sup>] (i.e., [k' g']), in the speech of the speakers of the same dialect.

This shows that the [ʃ̥ ʃ̥] vs. [k' g'] difference is not 'phonemic' in Tabriz or the whole Azerbaijan for that matter. And we can generalize the [ʃ̥ ʃ̥] vs. [k' g'] difference to [c ʒ ʃ̥ ʃ̥] vs. [č j k' g'], among other considerations, on the basis of the following observation by Assaturian: 'Those Azeri speakers, who articulate the /kʸ/ and /gʸ/ phonemes as (tč) and (dj), instead of (čʸ) and (jʸ) would use (c) and (dz)' (p.40, fn.10).

3.5.5. Secondly, in Fraenkel's 1961, which treats 'chiefly the Tabriz dialect which will be understood all over Persian Azerbaijan and in most of Soviet Azerbaijan' (p.6), we find further support for positing a unique set of underlying segments for Azerbaijani as a whole. The consonant system Fraenkel finds in Azerbaijani includes /č j c g/, which he describes as follows (p.448):

č voiceless blade-palatal [i.e., alveopalatal or [+hi, +cor, -vce, -cnt] H.S.] affricate, church, or like ts in hats.  
 j voiced blade-palatal affricate, judge or adže.c fortis dorso-palatal stop [i.e., palatal or [+hi, -cor, -bk, -vce, -cnt] H.S.], roughly as Southern cyards, affricated (sometimes almost as in church); fricative when final or before consonant (German ich). In loan words in absolute final position a distinction between the stop and fricative allophone is frequently made. g lenis dorso-palatal stop [i.e., palatal or [+hi, -cor, -bk, -vce, -cnt] H.S.], roughly gy in Southern gyarden; voiceless etc., as for b [i.e., 'unvoiced initially and after consonants; partly or unvoiced and unexploded finally; voiced and often fricative between vowels,' from Fraenkel's description of /b/ p.447. H.S.]; sometimes slightly affricated, (judge).

3.5.5.1. It is noteworthy that Fraenkel's informant comes from Tabriz. And aware as he is of the existence of [c ʒ] in Tabriz speech, Fraenkel does not posit /c ʒ/; rather, he posits /č j/ which surface as both [c ʒ] and [č j]. Similarly, instead of positing alveopalatal retroflex affricates /ʃ̥ ʃ̥/ Fraenkel posits palatal stops /c g/ (i.e., /k' g'/ in our notation).

3.5.6. Thirdly, some Northern Azerbaijani linguists ascribe the origin of [c ʒ] in Azerbaijani dialects to the influence of other languages; e.g., I. Haĵiyev (Akhundov 1973:246) considers [ʒ] in the Basgal, Müjü dialects as the result of Tat influence; T. Hämzäyev (*Ibid.*), following A. Šanidze (*Ibid.*), considers [ʒ] as the result of Albanian influence; and A. Hüseyinov (*Ibid.*), and Akhundov (*Ibid.*), consider [ʒ] traceable to other Turkic languages. Akhundov even seems to consider [ʒ] as an earlier form of [ĵ], because, reportedly, in some old sources the contemporary [ĵ] has been written as dz, e.g., the proper name [gʰæ nʲæ:], [[ʃʰæ nʲæ:] in Tabriz pronunciation. H.S.] appears as Gandza. Finally, Akhundov (1973:246) observes that the fact that the voiceless counterpart of [ʒ], i.e., [c], also, parallels [č], suggests a regular correspondence between [c ʒ] and [č ĵ]. In other words, just as [ʒ] is an older form of [ĵ], [c], too, is an older form of [č].

3.5.6.1. What interests us most is that Akhundov speaks of a regular correspondence between [c ʒ] and [č ĵ] in Azerbaijani dialects, which confirms our view that there should be a unique underlying set with varying phonetic realizations in dialects. This is to be extended to [ʃʰ ʃʰ] vs. [k' g'] correspondence, as well, i.e., [ʃʰ ʃʰ] and [k' g'] are phonetic realizations of /k g/. It is with this view that we appreciate Azər Hüseyinov's observation to the effect that [c ʒ ʃʰ ʃʰ] are phonetic variants of [č ĵ k' g'] (Akhundov 1973:243).

3.5.6.2. Now let us turn to Akhundov's objection to Hüseyinov's considering [c] as a variant of /č/. We do not agree with Akhundov on the phonemic status of [c], though we find his view of the nature of [c] helpful to our argument. Akhundov considers [c] not only as an independent 'phoneme' in the Ordubad dialect, but an older sound compared to

[č]. Akhundov (1973:244) bases this view on the observation that 'the [s] element which emerges like the ending phase of [ts] is easier for pronunciation, and historically, too, older than the [š] sound of the ending phase of [tš].'

3.5.6.3. Before learning Akhundov's view that [c] can be an older sound than [č], the present writer had employed a logic similar to Akhundov's. The present writer had noticed that [c] and [ɟ] word-finally and before consonants change to [š] and [ž], and he had been encouraged to consider [c ɟ] as the clusters [ts dz] at these points, remembering Bloch's (1941:281) observation about his English /č ĵ/ which are unit phonemes everywhere except that 'at the end of a stressed syllable after a nasal, they behave exactly like ordinary clusters of stop plus spirant.' On the basis of the consistency with which the present writer's [c ɟ] change to [š ž] word-finally and preconsonantly, after gathering from Akhundov's physiological-acoustic accounts that he considers [c ɟ] as [ts dz], and [č ĵ] as [tš dž], the writer would like to employ it as supporting evidence to the correctness of our view about the relationship between [c ɟ] in Tabriz speech and [č ĵ] in other Azerbaijani dialects.

3.5.7. Our view that regardless of predictable phonetic differences, one system of underlying segments should be posited for Azerbaijani as a whole is also supported by Trubetzkoy's view on the nature of dialectal differences. 'The phonetic realization of individual phonemes,' according to Trubetzkoy, is one of the 'three types of the phonetic differences between two dialects' (Trubetzkoy 1969:298).

3.5.7.1. Further, on the basis of the following explanation by Trubetzkoy, the [c ɟ] vs. [č ĵ] difference in Azerbaijani is of

the kind Trubetzkoy (1969:299) calls 'absolute' phonetic difference:

The phonetic differences may be 'absolute' when they affect the realization of a phoneme in all positions,.... An absolute phonetic difference exists, for example, between the Polish dialects that realize the  $\text{ʃ}$  as  $\text{l}$  (a somewhat retracted  $\text{l}$ ) and those that realize the  $\text{ʃ}$  as  $\text{ɥ}$ .

3.5.7.2. The phonetic difference between  $[\text{c } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{ʃ}]$  and  $[\text{č } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{k}' \text{ } \text{g}']$  is absolute in the sense that they do not alternate in the speech of individual speakers; either one or the other set is consistently employed by an individual. Yet, the phonetic difference does not carry semantic difference across dialects; regardless of whether  $[\text{c } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{ʃ}]$  or  $[\text{č } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{k}' \text{ } \text{g}']$  is used, the word has the same meaning. In other words, both  $[\text{c } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{ʃ}]$  and  $[\text{č } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{k}' \text{ } \text{g}']$  are phonetic realizations of the unique underlying set  $/\text{č } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{k } \text{g}/$ .

3.5.7.3. If it is asked why  $/\text{č } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{k } \text{g}/$  and not  $/\text{c } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{ʃ}/$  are posited as underlying segments, the reason is that whereas both  $/\text{č } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{k } \text{g}/$   $[\text{č } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{k}' \text{ } \text{g}']$  and  $/\text{c } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{ʃ}/$   $[\text{c } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{ʃ}]$  are straight-forward, it is not so with regard to the production of  $[\text{š } \text{ž } \text{x}' \text{ } \text{j}]$ . Whereas  $/\text{č } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{k } \text{g}/$  to  $[\text{š } \text{ž } \text{x}' \text{ } \text{j}]$  is expected,  $/\text{c } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{ʃ}/$  to  $[\text{š } \text{ž } \text{x}' \text{ } \text{j}]$  is not normally expected unless we posit  $/\text{č } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{k } \text{g}/$  as underlying segments which even though they surface as  $[\text{c } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{ʃ}]$  in some dialects, they have one spirantized form (i.e.,  $[\text{š } \text{ž } \text{x}' \text{ } \text{j}]$ ) in all dialects whether the underlying  $/\text{č } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{k } \text{g}/$  surfaces as  $[\text{č } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{k}' \text{ } \text{g}']$  or as  $[\text{c } \text{ʒ} \text{ } \text{ʃ}]$ .

3.5.7.4. To see this point, consider the words for 'to fly', 'point', 'ash', 'flower' which are pronounced respectively  $[\text{uc}]$ ,  $[\text{u } \text{ʒ}]$ ,  $[\text{ } \text{ʃ} \text{ } \text{ül}]$ ,  $[\text{ } \text{ʃ} \text{ } \text{ü}]$  in Tabriz, and  $[\text{uč}]$ ,  $[\text{u } \text{ʒ}]$ ,  $[\text{k}' \text{ } \text{ül}]$ ,  $[\text{g}' \text{ } \text{ül}]$  in other Azerbaijani dialects, such as the Northern literary dialect. However, in both groups of dialects the words for 'to fly' and 'point' are pronounced  $[\text{uš}]$ ,  $[\text{u } \text{ž}]$  in normal speech. And in those dialects in which  $[\text{ } \text{ʃ} \text{ } \text{ʃ}]/[\text{k}' \text{ } \text{g}']$

spirantize, in predictable environments, we get [x̣] for both [ḳ] and [ḳ'], and we get [j] for both [ḳ] and [ḳ']. E.g., 'is planting' and 'planted' are [æ<sup>h</sup>ir] and [æ<sup>h</sup>di] in Tabriz, and [æ<sup>h</sup>kir] and [æ<sup>h</sup>di] in the Northern literary dialect. Similarly, the word for 'valiant' is [i<sup>h</sup>id] ~ [ijit] in Tabriz, and [ig̣id] ~ [ijit] in the Northern literary dialect of Azerbaijani.

3.5.7.5. Therefore, we posit /č ʃ k g/ as Azerbaijani underlying segments which are realized as [č ʃ ḳ g̣] in some Azerbaijani dialects including the Baku dialect, and as [c ʒ ḳ ḳ'] in some other dialects of Azerbaijani including the Tabriz dialect. The phonetic difference between [č ʃ ḳ g̣] and [c ʒ ḳ ḳ'] is accountable by the following dialect specific Tabriz context free rules of (TCFR) which take /č ʃ/ [ḳ g̣] (< /k g/) to [c ʒ ḳ ḳ']:

$$/č ʃ/ \rightarrow [c ʒ]$$

i.e.

$$(TCFR) \begin{bmatrix} -syl \\ +hi \\ -bk \\ +cor \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -hi \\ +ant \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[ḳ g̣] \rightarrow [ḳ ḳ']$$

i.e.

$$(TCFR) \begin{bmatrix} -syl \\ +hi \\ -bk \\ -cnt \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -hi \\ +cor \\ +strid. \end{bmatrix}$$

3.6. Another Azerbaijani segment in need of some discussion is the voiced velar stop [g]. All the linguists mentioned, in one way or another do include /g/ in their discussion of Azerbaijani phonemes. In terms of generative phonology, Azerbaijani has an underlying voiced velar stop which also surfaces as voiced, and voiceless velar fricatives [g̣]

and [x], as well as the voiceless velar stop [k].

3.6.1. Except in affected literary style, we do not come across a word-final voiced stop in Tabriz speech, nor most probably in the majority of Azerbaijani dialects.<sup>10</sup> Although the word-final voiced velar stop appears frequently in orthography, I know of no instance of a native Azerbaijani word with word-final voiced velar stop in Tabriz speech. In this environment the voiced velar stop spirantizes, remaining, however, voiced before the vowel of a following word, e.g., uşag [üşax] 'child', uşag olma [üşagolma] 'Don't be a child!'

3.6.2. As just mentioned, in the majority of Azerbaijani dialects we do not find a final voiced velar stop. Word-finally, in monosyllabics the traditional orthographic g (our underlying /g/ segment) is realized as [x] or [g]. Word-finally in polysyllabic words the voiced velar stop /g/ is realized as [x] in the Northern, Western and Southern Azerbaijani dialects including the Tabriz dialect, by the following rule:

$$(g \rightarrow x) \quad \begin{bmatrix} +cns \\ -syl \\ +hi \\ +bk \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +cnt \\ -vce \end{bmatrix} / VC_1^2V \text{ — \#}$$

This rule accounts for the Tabriz pronunciation of the /g/ in words like: balıg [balıx] 'fish', bulag [bulax] 'fountain'.

3.6.3. But since in the Eastern group of Azerbaijani dialects the /g/ is only spirantized to [g] without further devoicing to [x], by an alternate analysis, the just given rule of spirantization and devoicing (see 3.6.2) can be conceived as consisting of two steps: (1) the spirantization of the /g/ to [g], i.e., /g/ → [g]/V— which would account for the surface form of the /g/ in the Eastern dialects of Azerbaijani, as in balıg [balıg] 'fish', bulag [bulag] 'fountain', etc., (2) the subsequent devoicing of the [g] resulting from step (1), i.e., [g] → [x]/VC<sub>1</sub><sup>2</sup>V—#

which would give the forms in the Northern, Western and Southern Azerbaijani dialects including the Tabriz dialect.

The advantage of this analysis is that it accounts for the dialect differences in terms of the presence of an additional rule, i.e., the devoicing of [g] to [x], in one group of dialects, i.e., the Northern, Western, Southern, and the absence of this rule in another group of Azerbaijani dialects, i.e., the Eastern dialects. This two step derivation may thus be illustrated:

|  | 'mountain'<br>/dāg/ | 'right'<br>/sāg/ | 'branch'<br>/budag/ | 'room'<br>/otag/ |                        |
|--|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| /g/ → [g]/V— (see 3.6.4)<br>(FVS) (see 3.11.3.4) | g<br>a              | g<br>a           | g                   | g                |                        |
|  | [dag]               | [sag]            | [budag]             | [otag]           | Eastern<br>dialects    |
| [g] → [x]/VC <sup>2</sup> V—#<br>(see 3.8)       | [dag]               | [sag]            | x<br>[budax]        | x<br>[otax]      | N., W., S.<br>dialects |

3.6.4. While the non-word-initial realization of the /g/ as [g] can be shown by the following rules of voiced velar stop spirantization and velar fricative devoicing (VF0) it can also be deduced from rule (V spir) that Azerbaijani can do without an underlying segment [g], because the surface realization of this segment is always predictable. In other words this is the only environment which [g] occurs.

(V spir) g → [g] / V —

(V spir)  $\left[ \begin{array}{l} +\text{cns} \\ +\text{hi} \\ +\text{bk} \\ +\text{vce} \end{array} \right] \rightarrow [+cnt] / [+syl] -$

3.6.4.1. Considering that the voiced palatal stop [g̃] (</g/), too, spirantizes after vowels, the rule of velar stop spirantization (Vspir) (3.6.4) can be revised into the rule of high voiced stop spirantization (HVSS):



$$(HVSS) \left[ \begin{array}{c} +cns \\ +hi \\ +vce \\ -strid \end{array} \right] \rightarrow [+cnt] / [+sy1] \text{ ---}$$

In this rule the feature [+bk] of (Vspri) has been omitted so that it can account for the palatal [g']→[j]/V—. And the feature [-strid] has been added to block the application of the rule to the high voiced affricate /j/. The following derivations illustrate the operation of the (HVSS):

|             |       |           |        |
|-------------|-------|-----------|--------|
|             | 'sir' | 'valiant' | 'high' |
|             | /aga/ | /igid/    | /uʃa/  |
| (RVS)       | —     | g'        | —      |
| (HVSS)      | g     | j         | —      |
| (Devoicing) | —     | t         | —      |
| (TCFR)      | —     | —         | ʃ      |
|             | [aga] | [ijit]    | [uʃa]  |

Rule (Vspir) which can be illustrated in the following derivations is valid for all Azerbaijani dialects:

|                     |          |                 |                        |         |
|---------------------|----------|-----------------|------------------------|---------|
|                     | 'garden' | 'in the garden' | 'hawk'                 | 'boy'   |
|                     | /bāg/    | /bāg + da/      | /guzgun/               | /oglan/ |
| (Vspir) (see 3.6.4) | g        | g               | —                      | g       |
| (FVS)               | a        | —               | —                      | —       |
| (NFVS)              | —        | a               | —                      | —       |
|                     | [bag]    | [bagda]         | [guzgun] <sup>12</sup> | [oglan] |

3.6.4.2. And as for rule (VFD), it consists of two parts, part

(a) applying to all Azerbaijani dialects whereas part (b) applies to all Azerbaijani dialects except the Eastern dialects:

$$(VFD) \quad [g] \rightarrow [x] / \left\{ \begin{array}{c} (C) \\ VCV \end{array} \left[ \begin{array}{c} -lɪŋ \\ -lɪŋ \end{array} \right] \right\} - \# \begin{array}{l} (a) \\ (b) \end{array}$$

$$(VFD) \quad \left[ \begin{array}{c} +cns \\ +hi \\ +bk \\ +vce \\ +cnt \end{array} \right] \rightarrow [-vce] / \left\{ \left( \left[ \begin{array}{c} -sy1 \\ +cns \end{array} \right] \right) \left[ \begin{array}{c} +sy1 \\ -lɪŋ \end{array} \right] \right\} - \# \begin{array}{l} (a) \text{ All} \\ \text{Azerbaijani} \\ \text{dialects} \\ (b) \text{ All} \\ \text{Azerbaijani} \\ \text{dialects except the Eastern.} \end{array}$$

Rule (VFD) is reflected in the following derivations:

|             | 'oil' | 'spread, burn' | 'white' | 'arrow' | N,W,S   | 'fish'  | Eastern |
|-------------|-------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|             | /jāg/ | /jag/          | /āg/    | /og/    | /balig/ | /balig/ | /balig/ |
| (V spir)    | ɣ     | ɣ              | ɣ       | ɣ       | ɣ       | ɣ       | ɣ       |
| (Devoicing) | —     | x              | —       | x       | —       | x       | —       |
| (FVS)       | a     | —              | a       | —       | —       | —       | —       |
|             | [jag] | [jax]          | [ag]    | [ox]    | [balix] | [balig] | [balig] |

3.6.5. As for the realization of the final /g/ in monosyllabics, it surfaces as [x] or [ɣ], probably depending on the length of the preceding vowel.

We have not come across any explanation concerning how to account for the final [x] and [ɣ] in monosyllabics. After learning from Emre (1949) that once there did exist long vowels in Turkic languages (traces of which can still be found, e.g., in Uzbek and Yakut), and that these long vowels have been responsible for the existence of the word-final voiced segments in monosyllabics, now we think we may conceive of [jix] 'demolish' vs. [jig] 'gather' problem as [jix] </jig/ vs. [jig] </jig̃/. I.e., the vowel length has influenced the voiced or voicelessness of the final consonant. (See also the derivations in 3.6.3 - 4.)

3.7. It may be objected that except in the initial syllable of a few words like [jāšil] 'green', [gālin] 'think', [nārin] 'fine (size)', etc., there are no long vowels in native words, hence we should not posit long underlying vowels. An answer is that even if there are (almost) no long vowels in contemporary Azerbaijani, if positing them helps bring out regularities otherwise unaccountable, we should not hesitate to posit them. After all we do have long underlying vowels in many loanwords which are nativized into ordinary vowels. Why not also posit native long vowels where necessary? The rule that shortens the long loan vowels can also take care of the long Old Turkic vowels. In fact, the accep-

tance of Emre's hypothesis presupposes the synchronic existence of a rule that has shortened the Old Turkic long vowels.

3.8. Unlike the process which causes the underlying word-final voiced velar stop in polysyllabics to surface as [ɣ] in Eastern Azerbaijani dialects and as [x] in Northern, Western and Southern dialects, in 'literary pronunciation' spirantization does not take place; instead, the segment is subject to another native rule, i.e., devoicing, which also causes  $b, d \rightarrow p, t/VCV - \#$ . Thus, e.g., /alaʃag/ 'will obtain', which is [alaʃag] in Eastern, and [alaʃax] / [alaʃax] in Northern, Western and Southern Azerbaijani dialects, becomes [alaʃak] in the literary pronunciation (of Northern Azerbaijan), and balıqsız 'fishless', which is [balıqsız] in Eastern Azerbaijani dialects and [balıxsız] in Northern, Western and Southern dialects, becomes [balıksız] in the literary pronunciation. But, reportedly, this stylistically produced voiceless velar stop is not yet widespread. In Akhundov's words, 'this change is still not the popular and popular literary norm in pronunciation' (Akhundov 1973:300).<sup>13</sup> In fact in popular literary pronunciation, the final voiced velar stop is spirantized and devoiced, as it is in Northern, Western and Southern Azerbaijani dialects. Concerning this, Dämirchizadə (1972: 94) says: 'the word-final voiced velar stop of polysyllabics is pronounced [x] in accordance with the norm of the literary pronunciation, except when it is followed by a vowel-initial word or suffix, in which case it is pronounced [ɣ].'

3.9. Finally, in the area of consonants, the last question to be treated in this chapter is the question of the segment underlying the voiceless palatal fricative [x̟]. We are aware of three hypotheses as to the segment underlying the [x̟]:

3.9.1. According to one phonemic view, [x̣] is the voiceless counterpart of /j/. We have already dealt with this (see 2.4.7.3 - 9).

3.9.2. Another phonemic view is that [x̣] is a variant of the voiceless velar fricative /x/ (Hoequist 1975:8). Plausible as it is from the synharmonic viewpoint (i.e., the fact that in Turkic languages vowels and consonants within a word agree with regard to backness/frontness feature), this solution seems to fail to account for the facts reflected in Azerbaijani dialects concerning [x̣]. This should become clear in the light of the following discussion presenting a third view.

3.9.3. According to the third view (see 2.4.6 - 6) [x̣] is a variant of the palatal stop /ḳ/. This seems to be the traditional assumption tacitly held by literate Azerbaijani speakers of the dialects concerned, as well as the majority of the grammarians describing Azerbaijani.

E.g., from what may be inferred from Akhundov's discussion (1973: 248), this view is held by some Northern Azerbaijani linguists like M. Hüseyinzadə and Ä. Äfändizadə.

Similarly, Assaturian, Fraenkel, and Färzanä, obviously adhere to this traditional view. Assaturian (1958:36) speaks of final /ḳ/ thus: '(ḳ<sup>y</sup>) occurs initially, medially, and finally'; Fraendel (1961:448) clearly refers to the relationship between the palatal stop /ḳ/ and its preconsonantal and fricative variant [x̣]: '/c/ fortis dorso-palatal stop, roughly in Southern Cyard, affricated (sometimes almost as in church); fricative when final or before consonant (German ich)'; and according to Färzanä (1965:33) 'before a vowel [initial suffix or word. H.S.] the sound [ḳ] at the end of polysyllabic morphemes becomes [j], e.g., [sümüḳ] 'bone' [sümüjæ] 'bone' (objective), [inæḳ] 'cow' [inæji] 'the cow' (accusative).' Note that Färzanä, too, speaks of a word-final [ḳ] 'sound';

he uses the symbol k (= [k̑]) for the sound [k̑], not for [x̑].

It is to be noted that there is not contradiction between the view (inferable from Assaturian's and Färzanä's work) that there is a final [x̑] rather than [k̑], because whereas in many Azerbaijani dialects, pre-consonantly and finally, [k̑] becomes [x̑], in many others it remains as [k̑]. The basic assumption in both views is that the segment underlying the palatal fricative [x̑] is the palatal stop /k̑/. (Concerning /k̑/, as already discussed (3.2.11), we regard the palatal stops as the phonetic realization of the underlying velar stops /k g/ according to the rule of the realization of the velar stops (RVS) (3.2.11).)

3.9.4. This assumption, also held by us, finds further support in the following discussion raised by an argument to the contrary by Dämırchizadä, who considers the final k as a mere symbol for [x̑]. Dämırchizadä (1972:95-6, 136-7) observes that since the contemporary Azerbaijani alphabet has no specific symbol for the voiceless counterpart of [j], this sound, i.e., [x̑], is represented with the grapheme k. E.g., the medial and final k in the words çiçäki 'the flower' (accusative), and çiçäk al 'Buy flowers!' is not really [k̑], but [x̑] which is voiced to [j] in the environment of the following vowel-initial suffix or word. Thus, çiçäki and çiçäk al are not [çiçæ k̑i] and [çiçæ k̑al], but [çiçæ ji] <\*/ciçæ x̑+i/ and [çiçæ jal] <\*/çiçæ x̑#al/.

3.9.4.1. Although this view is not wholly accurate, as it will become clear in the succeeding paragraphs, it is considerably accurate; in the literary dialect of Northern Azerbaijan, as well as in the speech of Tabriz, the orthographic k pre-consonantly and finally is pronounced [x̑], e.g., tük [tүx̑] 'hair', tүklär [tүxlæ r] 'hairs', inäk [inæ x̑] 'cow', inaklar [inæ xlæ r] 'cows', inäkçi [inæ x̑çi]/[inæ x̑ci] 'cow keeper', käpänäk [kæ pæ næ x̑]/[kæ pæ næ x̑] 'butterfly', käpänäklär [kæ pæ næ xlæ r]/

[<sup>h</sup>æ̣ pæ̣ næ̣ x̣læ̣r] 'butterflies'.

In these dialects the morpheme-final k of the monosyllabic morphemes before a vowel-initial suffix or word, is pronounced [j], e.g., 'to the cow' [inæ̣jæ̣] </inæ̣k+a /, 'the butterfly' [ḳæ̣ pæ̣ næ̣ ji]/[<sup>h</sup>æ̣ pæ̣ næ̣ ji] </ḳæ̣ pæ̣ næ̣ ki/, cf. the monosyllabic [æ̣ ḳæ̣]/[<sup>h</sup>æ̣] </æ̣k+a / 'so that he plants.'

3.9.4.2. As far as phonetic facts are concerned Dämırchizadä is right in considering the orthographic k, finally in polysyllabic words as a mere orthographic symbol which is pronounced as the voiceless palatal fricative [x̣] which becomes a voiced palatal semivowel [j] before vowels.

3.9.4.3. But, as already mentioned (see 2.4.7.3 - 5), the k of the monosyllabic words which preconsonantly and finally is pronounced [x̣], does have the phonetic value of the palatal stop (in the case of Tabriz speech, it is an alveopalatal retroflex affricate) before a suffix or word beginning with a vowel, e.g., [æ̣ ḳı̣ndi]/[<sup>h</sup>æ̣ ı̣ndi] </æ̣k+in+di/ äkindi 'it is an area under grain crops', [æ̣ ḳı̣ndi]/[<sup>h</sup>æ̣ ı̣ndi] </æ̣k#ı̣ndi/ äk ı̣ndi 'Plant/sow now!', [tæ̣ ḳı̣] / [tæ̣ <sup>h</sup>ı̣] </tæ̣k+i/ täki 'the odd numbered one', [tæ̣ ḳulduz]/[tæ̣ <sup>h</sup>ulduz] </tæ̣k # ulduz/ täk ulduz 'single star.' In other words, the voiceless palatal stop that surfaces as the palatal fricative, in monosyllabics does surface before a vowel. This surfacing of the palatal segment in the dialect Dämırchizadä describes, as well as in Tabriz speech, is more clearly observable in some other dialects of Azerbaijani where the palatal stop surfaces unchanged (in the case of Tabriz speech, it is changed to the voiceless alveopalatal retroflex affricate). E.g., among the Eastern dialects, there are at least four (i.e., the dialects of the Märzä region, the Mughan region,

the Göyçay region and the Aghdash region) which have unchanged final [k]. In the texts from these regions in Shiräliyev's book (1967:370, 374) we find [gɛdæ:k] 'Let's go!' in Märzä and Mughan regions, and [göra:k] 'Let's see!' in Göyçay and Aghdash regions (*Ibid.*, 377, 378).

3.9.4.4. In some other dialects of Azerbaijani, e.g., the Baku dialect, apparently the [k] preconsonantly surfaces unchanged, and before vowels and finally as the voiced palatal stop [g], e.g., [kæ:kliklær] kâkliklär 'quails' (Shiräliyev 1967:362), [bæ:slæ:mægæ:] (*Ibid.*, 357) </bæ:slæ:mæ:k+a / 'for fostering', [çöra:g] (*Ibid.*, 358, 360) çöräk 'bread.'

3.9.4.5. These examples suffice to show that the orthographic final k in Azerbaijani words is not an arbitrary symbol for the sound [x], (as Dämirchizadə claims), merely because the Azerbaijani alphabet has no other symbol for it. On the contrary, study of the dialectal pronunciations of Azerbaijani words suggests that the [k] is realized unchanged as [k], spirantized as [x], voiced as [g], voiced and spirantized as [j], and even realized as [h] in Azerbaijani dialects. E.g., the word for 'bread' appears as [çöra:x] ([çöra:x] in Tabriz) in Shahbuz (404),<sup>14</sup> Ordubad (406), Nukha (412), Tabriz and other dialects; as [çöra:g] in the Baku dialect (358, 360), Ismayılı region and other places within Eastern Azerbaijani dialects; as [çöra:j] in Ordubad (406); as [çöra:h] in the Ordubad dialect (406); and we find final [k] in [gæ:ræk] 'must', [gɛdæ:k] 'Let's go!', [göra:k] 'upon seeing' along with [çöra:j] 'bread', [göra:j] 'Let's see!' (370) in the Märzä region, [bilmæk] 'to know' (371), [gɛdæ:k] 'Let's go!' (374), along with [kæ:sæg] 'let's cut' (373), [jijæg] (372) yiyäk 'Let's eat!', [dijærüg] (374) diyärük 'we shall say' in the Mughan group of dialects; [gæ:šæk] (377) gæ:šæng 'pretty', [böjök] (377) böyök 'great', [üstælik] (377) üstälük 'additional',

[elæmærik'] 'we shall/do not do (that)', [gédæjæk'] 'will go' in the Göyçay region. In some dialects more than one phonetic form of [k'] in a given position is realized, e.g., in Aghdam: [inæk']~[inæj] (397) inäk 'cow' vs. [jejæx'] 'let's eat' yeyäk, vs. [çæhdi] (396) çäkdı 'drew'; in Ordubad: [æpbæx'] (406) vs. [æpbæj] (406) äppäk 'bread' vs. [çöræh] (406) cöräk 'bread' and [gédæh] gedäk 'Let's go!' (406).

3.9.4.6. Considering the fact that words are not semantically differentiated for the difference of the preconsonantal or final [k'], [x'], [g'], [j], or [h], as we just saw, these forms must be members or manifestations of only one basic form. This basic form, traditionally called the 'letter' k or 'phoneme' /k/, is in generative terms the underlying velar segment /k/ which by the rule of the realization of the velar stops (RVS) (3.2.11) surfaces palatal stop [k'], which in some dialects of Azerbaijani including the Tabriz dialect becomes [ç] as a result of the application of the Tabriz context free rule (TCFR).

3.9.4.7. The advantage of the traditional and generative interpretations (over interpretations like Dämirchizadä's) is that the phonetic forms of the k in perhaps all Azerbaijani dialects are accounted for by showing that the phonetic forms are members of /k/, or are derived from /k/ by (3.2.11) and (3.2.12), whereas if this basic common ground (i.e., the fact that in predictable positions, [k'], [x'], [g'], [j], [h] are phonetic forms of /k/) is ignored, each dialect would perhaps need to be assigned the phonetic form of /k/ occurring in it as its 'phoneme.' This would mean ignoring the fact that plurality in phonetic form does not impair the unity of meaning across Azerbaijani dialects and speeches.

3.9.4.8. The relationship between the orthographic forms like inäk 'cow' (which we take as the underlying form) and the phonetic forms [inæk'],



[inæx̣], [inæǵ], [inæj], [inæh] can be understood as phonological processes explainable by rules pertaining to each dialect. Thus, in the Tabriz dialect (as well as the Northern literary dialect) [+hi, -cnt, -bk] and [+hi, -cnt, +bk] segments (i.e., /č ʃ k g/) are spirantized finally and preconsonantly (e.g., [uʃ] uč 'Fly!', [uʒ] uǰ 'point', [æx̣] äk 'Plant/Sow!', [göj]/[çöj] gög 'sky', [otax] otag 'room'; [uʃdi] učdi 'flew', [uʒli] uǰli 'pointed' (noun), [æx̣sæm] æksæm 'If I plant/sow', [otaxda] otagda 'in the room'). Hence, the traditional and generative interpretation of [x̣] can be seen as an instance of the application of the rule of spirantization to any strident, noncontinuant segment (i.e., /č ʃ/) as well as the high nonstrident noncontinuant segments (i.e., [ḳ ǵ], /g/) of the Azerbaijani consonant system.

3.10. Linguists who have examined Azerbaijani vowel system almost unanimously hold that Azerbaijani has nine nonlong vowels. The fact that, in speech diphthongs, long and short and nasal vowels, are phonetically produced has also been recognized.

3.10.1. From among the linguists whose work we have examined, only one (i.e., Akhundov 1973) posits more than nine vowel phonemes for Azerbaijani. As we have already seen, in addition to the nine ordinary vowels recognized by all (i.e., /i ü e ö æ a o u ɨ/) Akhundov also posits five long vowels (i.e., /ī ē ō ā/, and two diphthongs (i.e., /öü ou/).

3.10.2. The existence of long vowels in Azerbaijani is confirmed by Shiräliyev's work (1967:23) on Azerbaijani dialects, according to which Azerbaijani dialects present a system of long vowels in addition to the normal vowels. As we saw (2.6.2 - 3), Shiräliyev classifies the long vowels into two groups: (a) those found in a very limited number of

native Azerbaijani words, (b) those phonetically formed as well as those found in some loanwords.

3.10.2.1. Despite Akhundov's view, however, these long vowels may not be considered 'phonemes' because even if we manage to discover minimal pairs like [doga] 'that she gives birth': [dōga] dovga 'rice and vegetable soup with yogurt', we know how the predictable long [ō] in [dōga] has been formed.

3.10.2.2. Yet, even if nonphonemic, the difference between long and normal vowels is perceptible. And this seems to be sufficient reason for rendering long vowels noteworthy from the viewpoint of generative phonology which is concerned with the interpretation of the phonetic representations and how they are generated.

3.10.2.3. What makes some long vowels noteworthy from the generative viewpoint is that unlike the phonetically formed long vowels (see 2.6.5.1), the native long vowels (few and infrequent as they are) and long vowels in some loanwords cannot be accounted for except by deriving them from underlying long vowels (e.g., [jāšil] </jāšil/ 'green', [hāzir] < Arabic hādir 'ready').

3.10.2.4. In terms of generative phonology this means positing long underlying vowels in Azerbaijani. This seems plausible because it is in this way that the originally long vowels of the native words and loanwords can be accounted for. Positing underlying long vowels can also make it possible to predict the voice of the final consonant in monosyllabics as discussed above (see 3.6.5). According to Emre (1949: 60-7, 91), as late as the eleventh century there existed in Turkic languages long vowels which still persist in Yakut Turkic, and traces of which can be encountered in other Turkic languages.<sup>15</sup> (Are the long

vowels in the words [jāšil] 'green', [gālin] 'thick', [nārin] 'fine(size), in Tabriz speech in this category as well?). The adoption of long underlying vowels has helped us do without an underlying /g/ (See 3.6.4).

3.10.2.5. Thus, we suggest the following underlying vowel system for Azerbaijani:

|   |   |   |   |    |   |    |    |
|---|---|---|---|----|---|----|----|
| i | ü | ɨ | u | ĩ  | ũ | ɨ̃ | ũ̃ |
| e | ö |   | o | ē  | ō |    | ō̃ |
| æ | a |   |   | æ̃ | ā |    |    |

3.10.2.6. Long vowels in native words, apparently except for a few instances (See 2.6.2.4), do not surface in the majority of the modern Turkic languages.<sup>16</sup> Yet we need the underlying long vowels for the reasons already discussed (See 3.10.2.3 - 4).

3.11. Concerning the phonetic realization of Azerbaijani underlying vowels a concise yet comprehensive generalization seems to be that 'in... Turkic languages...the vocalism of the first syllable is richer than the vocalism of all other syllables' (Trubetzkoy 1969:98).

3.11.1. In fact, except for /ɨ/ which occurs initially less frequently all the normal vowels /i ü ɨ u, e ö o, æ a/ occur initially, where, unaccented, they are in their tense and shorter variants, whereas in noninitial syllables they are lax and longer variants (See Assaturian 1958:16 - 20). It should be pointed out that the tenseness, shortness, laxness, and length, in normal vowels, are hardly perceptible and not phonologically significant.<sup>17</sup> In native words mid vowels do not occur in noninitial syllables of a morpheme.

3.11.2. Phonologically significant phonetic realizations of Azerbaijani vowels may be viewed in terms of the rule-governed change of one vowel segment to another. These changes in the Tabriz dialect are the following:

3.11.2.1. The change of word-initial and word-final /ɨ/ to [i].

Except in a few words like [ɨlxɨ] ilxɨ 'herd', [ɨʂgɨrmax] hicgɨrmag 'to hiccup', in the writer's pronunciation, and [ɨdɨrɨm] ildɨrɨm 'thunderbolt' [ɨlɨx] ilɨg 'lukewarm', [ɨlan] ilan 'snake', [ɨʂɨx] iʂɨg 'light' also in Tabriz pronunciation according to Färzanä (1965:30), underlying word-initial /ɨ/ changes to [i] in both Tabriz speech and the literary pronunciation.<sup>18</sup> This change may be formulated as the rule of high back vowel fronting (HFa):

$$(HFa) \quad \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ +hi \\ -rnd \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-bk] / \# \text{ —}$$

3.11.2.1.1. Rule (HFa) is responsible for the change of the underlying /ɨ/ to [i] in many words including the following in the writer's pronunciation: [ildɨrɨm] < /ɨdɨrɨm/ ildɨrɨm 'thunderbolt', [ilɨx] < /ɨlɨg/ ilɨg 'lukewarm', [ilan] < /ɨlan/ ilan 'snake', [iʂɨx] < /ɨʂɨg/ iʂɨg 'light.'

As a further point for the motivation of rule (HFa) we may consider the Azerbaijani word for 'the day before yesterday', which is [israga~~ɨ~~ün] in urban Tabriz pronunciation and [sɨraga<sup>ɨ</sup>ün] in the literary pronunciation. The difference between the two pronunciations is that in the former, the word-initial underlying /ɨ/ has undergone rule (HFa) whereas in the latter the non-word-initial /ɨ/ has not undergone this rule.

3.11.2.1.2. Unlike the case in literary pronunciation, in Tabriz pronunciation the word-final /ɨ/, too, is fronted to [i], e.g., [gari] garɨ 'old woman', [dari] darɨ 'millet', etc. And this change in Tabriz pronunciation may be formulated as the rule of high back vowel fronting (HFb):

$$(HFb) \quad \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ +hi \\ -rnd \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-bk] / \text{ — } \#$$

3.11.2.1.3. Since both are active in Tabriz speech, rules (HFa) and (HFb), by the neighborhood convention proposed by Bach (1968), can be collapsed into a more general high-unrounded-vowel fronting rule (HUF):

$$(HUF) \quad \begin{bmatrix} +sy1 \\ +hi \\ -rnd \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-bk] / \#$$

3.11.2.1.4. Besides applying to the examples cited for the rules (HFa) and (HFb), this rule also applies to words like [ildirimi] < /ildirim+i/ ildirim+i 'the thunderbolt' (accusative). [ilani] < /ilan+i/ ilan+i 'the snake' (accusative), etc.

3.11.2.2. In addition to the  $i \rightarrow i / \#$ , in Tabriz speech we also have  $\begin{pmatrix} \ddot{u} \\ u \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow i / \text{CVC} - \#$ .<sup>19</sup> The latter rule which accounts for [sürü] < /sürü/ sürü 'flock', [guzi] < /guzu/ guzu 'lamb', etc., consists of a rule of unrounding for  $\ddot{u} \rightarrow i / \text{CVC} - \#$ , as in [sürü] etc., and a rule of both fronting and unrounding for  $u \rightarrow i / \text{CVC} - \#$  as in [guzi]. In other words, Tabriz speech seems to have a rule of word-final high vowel unrounding (HU):

$$(HU) \quad \begin{bmatrix} +sy1 \\ +hi \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-rnd] / \text{CVC} - \#$$

which is responsible for the derivation of [sürü] < /sürü/ sürü 'flock', etc. and a rule of word-final high back vowel unrounding (HBU):

$$(HBU) \quad \begin{bmatrix} +sy1 \\ +hi \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -bk \\ -rnd \end{bmatrix} / \text{CVC} - \#$$

which accounts for the derivations like [guzi] < /guzu/ guzu 'lamb', etc.

3.11.2.2.1. A closer examination, however, suggests that /u/ → [i] / - # is actually produced by the rules (HUF) and (HU). This means that the application of (HU) and (HUF) in this order can make Azerbaijani phonology independent of the rule (HBU), as the following derivations show:

|       |  | 'lamb' | 'dry'  | 'pipe' | 'clear' |
|-------|--|--------|--------|--------|---------|
|       |  | /guzu/ | /guru/ | /boru/ | /duru/  |
| (HU)  | $\begin{bmatrix} +sy1 \\ +hi \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-rnd]/CVC - \#$    | ɨ      | ɨ      | ɨ      | ɨ       |
| (HUF) | $\begin{bmatrix} +sy1 \\ +hi \\ -rnd \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-bk] / \#$ | i      | i      | i      | i       |
|       |  | [guzi] | [guri] | [bori] | [duri]  |

However, when because of suffixation there is no word boundary in the underlying representations after the root, the rules (HU) and (HUF) fail to apply consistently. E.g., in the following derivations, although no word boundary exists in the underlying representations, the rules apply:

|                    | 'to the lamb' | 'to the flock' | 'to the living' |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
|                    | /guzu+a/      | /sürü+a/       | /diri+a/        |
| (HU) (3.11.2.2)    | ɨ             | i              | —               |
| (HUF) (3.11.2.1.3) | i             | —              | —               |
| (Glide-ins)        | y             | y              | y               |
| (VH)               | æ             | æ              | æ               |
|                    | [guziyæ]      | [süriyæ]       | [diriyæ]        |

This application of the rules across morpheme boundary rather than word boundary demands a revision of the rules into:

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| (HU)  | $\begin{bmatrix} +sy1 \\ +hi \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-rnd] / CVC - \left\{ \begin{matrix} \# \\ + \end{matrix} \right\}$        |
| (HUF) | $\begin{bmatrix} +sy1 \\ +hi \\ -rnd \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-bk] / CVC - \left\{ \begin{matrix} \# \\ + \end{matrix} \right\}$ |

These rules are valid for the neutralization of the high vowels both word-finally (e.g., [guzi]</guzu/ 'lamb') and morpheme-finally (e.g., [guziyæ]</guzu+a/ 'to the lamb'). Nevertheless, in some similar words as in the following derivations these rules do not apply:

|       | 'my lamb' (accus.) | 'lambs'    | 'in the flock' | 'His flock, too' |
|-------|--------------------|------------|----------------|------------------|
|       | /guzu+m+i/         | /guzu+lar/ | /sürü+da/      | /sürü+s+i+da/    |
| (HU)  | —                  | —          | —              | —                |
| (HUF) | —                  | —          | —              | —                |
| (VH)  | u                  | —          | æ              | ü æ              |
| (HU)  | i                  | —          | —              | —                |
| (HUF) | i                  | —          | —              | —                |
|       | [guzumi]           | [guzular]  | [sürüdə]       | [sürüsüdə]       |

The puzzle is that in the case of the former derivations the rules apply across morpheme boundary, whereas under identical circumstances, in the latter derivations, the rules fail to apply.

3.11.2.2.2. The issue, however, ceases to be a problem once one notices the relation between the operation of the rules (HU) and (HUF) and the class of the following suffix segment. In suffixation, the applicability of the rules (HU) and (HUF) depends on this following suffix segment. The rules apply only when the initial suffix segment is a vowel. These points can be accounted for by a further revision of the rules (HU) and (HUF) in the form of adding the feature [+syl] after the morpheme boundary:

$$\begin{array}{l} \left[ \begin{array}{l} +\text{syl} \\ +\text{hi} \end{array} \right] \rightarrow [-\text{rnd}] / \text{CVC} - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \# \\ +[\text{syl}] \end{array} \right\} \\ \left[ \begin{array}{l} +\text{syl} \\ +\text{hi} \\ -\text{rnd} \end{array} \right] \rightarrow [-\text{bk}] / \text{CVC} - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \# \\ +[\text{syl}] \end{array} \right\} \end{array}$$

3.11.2.2.3. Phonetic realizations of Azerbaijani vowels are also conditioned by the presence of the glide [y],<sup>20</sup> which raises and fronts the low vowel of the root, as can be seen in the pronunciation of the words [aniyə] < anaya < /ana+a/ anaya 'to the mother', [næniyə] < nænəyə < /nænə+a / nänäyä 'to the mother', [aneymiş] < anaymiş < /ana+imiş/ < anaymiş 'it has been mother' [næneymiş] < nænəyemiş < /nænə+imiş/ 'it has been mother.'

3.11.2.2.4. As these examples show, the stem vowels preceding the glide change to [e] or [i]. These changes are effected by the following two rules:

(a) The stem vowels /a æ/ change to [e] before the front unround glide and voiced palatal fricative /j/ when it is followed by a consonant. This change can be formulated as the rule of low to mid vowel raising (/a æ/ to [e]):

$$(/a \text{ } \text{æ}/ \text{ to } [e]) \quad \begin{bmatrix} +\text{syl} \\ -\text{hi} \\ -\text{rnd} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -\text{bk} \\ -\text{lo} \end{bmatrix} / - \begin{bmatrix} -\text{syl} \\ +\text{hi} \\ +\text{cnt} \\ -\text{strid} \\ -\text{bk} \end{bmatrix} [-\text{syl}]$$

(b) The stem vowels /a æ e/ change to [i] before the front unround glide and voiced palatal fricative when it is followed by a vowel. And this change can be formulated as the rule of low and mid to high vowel raising (/a æ e/ to [i]):

$$(/a \text{ } \text{æ} \text{ } e/ \text{ to } [i]) \quad \begin{bmatrix} +\text{syl} \\ -\text{hi} \\ -\text{rnd} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +\text{hi} \\ -\text{lo} \\ -\text{bk} \end{bmatrix} / - \begin{bmatrix} -\text{syl} \\ +\text{hi} \\ +\text{cnt} \\ -\text{strid} \\ -\text{bk} \end{bmatrix} [+ \text{syl}]$$

Note that when the vowel following the [y] / j/ is /i/, the raising can only be one degree, i.e., the mid vowel /e/, by one degree raises to [i], and the low vowels /a æ/, by one degree, raise to [e]. Although this is intuitively quite clear, it is not expressible by the SPE framework.

Before citing additional examples illustrating vowel raise in Tabriz speech, we need first to collapse the rules of (/a æ/ to [e]) and (/a æ e/ to [i]) into the more general rule of vowel raise (V-raise):

$$(V\text{-raise}) \quad \begin{bmatrix} +\text{syl} \\ -\text{hi} \\ -\text{rnd} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \llcorner \text{hi} \\ -\text{lo} \\ -\text{bk} \end{bmatrix} / - \begin{bmatrix} -\text{syl} \\ +\text{hi} \\ +\text{cnt} \\ -\text{strid} \\ -\text{bk} \end{bmatrix} [\llcorner \text{syl}]$$



The rule of (V-raise) states that the value for the feature [high] in the vowel preceding the [y] / /j/ is in a direct relationship with the value for the feature [syllabic] in the segment following the glide. If the value for the feature [syllabic] in the latter is plus, the value for the feature [high] in the former, too, is plus. Similarly, if the value for the feature [syllabic] in the latter is minus, the value for the feature [high] in the former is minus. In other words, if the segment following the glide is [+syllabic], the vowel preceding the [y] / /j/ is [+high], and if the segment is [-syllabic] the vowel is [-high].

3.11.2.2.5. Secondly, since the rule of vowel raising, as we just saw, is motivated by the presence of a [y] / /j/, we need to account for the presence of the [y] / /j/ before citing examples for the rule of vowel raising. In native words, there seem to be two sources for [y]. It is inserted between a stem-final vowel and the initial vowel of a monosyllabic suffix, by the following rule of glide insertion (Glide-ins):

$$\text{(Glide-ins)} \quad \emptyset \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \text{-syl} \\ \text{-cns} \\ \text{+hi} \\ \text{\(\(\)rnd} \\ \text{\(\(\)bk} \end{bmatrix} / \begin{bmatrix} \text{+syl} \\ \text{\(\(\)rnd} \end{bmatrix} \text{ — [+syl]}$$

3.11.2.2.6. The application of this rule will be exemplified after the other rule responsible for the appearance of [y] is presented. This rule which changes the unstressed high front vowel to the front glide is the rule of glide formation (Glide-form):

$$\text{(Glide-form)} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \text{-cns} \\ \text{+hi} \\ \text{-bk} \\ \text{-stress} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{[-syl]} / \text{[+syl]} \text{ —}$$

3.11.2.2.7. The application of the above three rules can be seen in the following derivations (The suffix /an/ is the agent marker; the vowel /a/ after a noun is the dative case suffix, after a verb the sub-

junctive or optative mood suffix; the vowel /i/ is the copula suffix; /di/ the third person singular subject suffix; /i+miʃ/ is the suffix combination of the copula /i/ and presumptive past suffix):

|              |           |                |                 |                 |
|--------------|-----------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|              | 'Return!' | 'to the sayer' | 'to the mother' | '(that) he say' |
|              | /gajit/   | /de+an+a/      | /ana+a/         | /de+a/          |
| (Glide-ins)  | —         | y              | y               | y               |
| (Glide-form) | —         | —              | —               | i               |
| (V-raise)    | e         | i              | i               | i               |
| (VH)         | i         | æ æ            | æ               | æ               |
|              | [gejit]   | [diyæ næ]      | [aniyæ]         | [diyæ]          |

|              |                        |                |                     |                                |
|--------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
|              | 'it was the<br>mother' | 'is<br>saying' | 'with the<br>child' | 'he must have<br>been at home' |
|              | /næ næ+i+d+i/          | /de+ir/        | /bala+ila/          | /ev+da+i+mis/                  |
| (Glide-ins)  | —                      | y              | —                   | —                              |
| (Glide-form) | y                      | —              | y                   | y                              |
| (V-raise)    | e                      | i              | e                   | e                              |
| (VH)         | —                      | —              | a                   | —                              |
|              | [næneydi]              | [diyir]        | [baleyɫæ]           | [evdeymiʃ]                     |

The form [baleyɫæ] 'with the child' is the formal Tabriz pronunciation. Its normal and informal pronunciation is [baleynæɫn] in which through suppletion /inan/ rather than /ila/ is the concomitative suffix.

3.11.2.2.8. The words [næyi] 'what?' (accusative) and [næyæ:] 'to what?' (dative) contradict the rule of vowel raising (V-raise). We seem to be compelled to explain this contradiction by suggesting that perhaps the final vowel of the monosyllabic nouns (not verbs) are not ordinarily affected by the transition [y]. Hence, [næyi] < /næ+i/ (accusative) 'what?' and [næyæ:] < /næ+a/ 'to what?' (dative), [næyin] < /næ+in/ 'belonging to what?' (genitive) are the expected forms.

As for [niyæ:] < /næ+a/ 'why?', the change of [æ] to [i] may have been because of its association with verbs.

3.11.3. Finally, as already mentioned (3.10.2.4), long underlying vowels are necessary to account for the unpredictable long vowels in a few native words and the considerable number of the Arabic and Persian loans with long vowels in Azerbaijani.

3.11.3.1. A largely valid generalization about the distribution of the long vowels in loans, in formal and, to a lesser extent, in normal style of Azerbaijani speech seems to be Akhundov's (1973:129) observation to the effect that in Arabic loans in Azerbaijani the long vowels precede syllables with a front vowel. This generalization contributes to the specification of the distribution of the long vowels in loans like [ālim] < Arabic Ṣālim 'learned', [rūhi] < Arabic rūḥī 'psychological', etc., but it cannot account for the long vowels in [tāvus] /tāvūs/ < Arabic tāwūs 'peacock', [sīna] < /sīnā/ sīnā 'Sinai', etc. where the long vowel is not followed by a syllable with front vowel.

3.11.3.2. Nevertheless, when we examine the more important question of the rule(s) responsible for shortening the long vowels in loans, Akhundov's observation, by specifying where long vowels can be expected, helps us see where they are not expected, i.e., where they are shortened. Akhundov's observation rightly relates the question of the shortening of the long vowels of the loans to the question of the backness/frontness harmony. If the vowels of a word do not agree in backness, one of them, i.e., the first, may remain long (e.g., [sīna], [rūhi], etc.), the long vowel in the final syllable is always shortened by the rule to be given. It can be inferred from this observation that when the vowels of a loanword agree in backness shortening of the long vowel is not blocked. And this seems to be almost exceptionless.

3.11.3.3. In other words, there can be a rule like nonfinal vowel

shortening (NFVS):

$$(NFVS) \begin{bmatrix} +sy1 \\ \alpha bk \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-1ng] / -C \begin{bmatrix} +sy1 \\ -1ng \\ \alpha bk \end{bmatrix}$$

3.11.3.4. The fact that such a rule exists can be seen after considering the rule of final vowel shortening (FVS):

$$(FVS) [+sy1] \rightarrow [-1ng] / -(C) \#$$

Rule (FVS) accounts for words like [dünja] </dunjā/< Arabic dunyā 'world', [mowzun] </mavzün/< Arabic mawzün 'balanced', etc. Since in such words only the vowel of the final syllable is long, rule (FVS) suffices to derive the normal and informal pronunciations of these words in Azerbaijani. But rule (FVS) does not suffice to derive the normal and informal pronunciations in loans with more than one long vowel. In such words, rule (FVS) does not advance beyond the derivation of formal pronunciations, e.g., rule (FVS) derives the formal [mūsā] </mūsā/< Arabic mūsā 'Moses', but not the normal and informal [musa]. It is the existence of the normal and informal styles of pronunciations that argues for the already mentioned rule (NFVS). In the following derivations we see the ordered application of the rules (FVS) – (NFVS):

|        |         |        |           |          |            |         |
|--------|---------|--------|-----------|----------|------------|---------|
|        | 'Moses' | 'Tuba' | 'lantern' | 'aim'    | 'surveyer' | 'mason' |
|        | /mūsā/  | /tübā/ | /fānūs/   | /mænzūr/ | /mæssāh/   | /bænnā/ |
| (FVS)  | a       | a      | u         | u        | a          | a       |
| (NFVS) | u       | u      | a         | —        | —          | —       |
|        | [musa]  | [tuba] | [fanus]   | [mænzur] | [mæssah]   | [bænna] |

3.11.3.4.1 There is evidence, however, that nonfinal vowel shortening is not carried out only by the rule (NFVS). In words like [isa] </īsā/< Arabic ṣīsā 'Jesus', [iman] </īmān/< Arabic īmān 'faith', etc., nonfinal vowel shortening has occurred where despite what rule (NFVS) requires the shortened vowel does not agree with the vowel of the en-

vironment in backness. This evidence helps the simplification of the rule of nonfinal vowel shortening (NFVS) into a rule which does not impose the restriction of the backness harmony:

$$[+syl] \rightarrow [-lŋg] / -C \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ -lŋg \end{bmatrix}$$

This rule which is ordered after the rule of final vowel shortening (FVS), applies optionally. When only (FVS) applies, the formal pronunciation is derived, but when the application of (FVS) is followed by (NFVS) the normal and informal pronunciations are derived, e.g.:

|        |         |         |                     |         |
|--------|---------|---------|---------------------|---------|
|        | 'Moses' | 'Jesus' | 'Moses'             | 'Jesus' |
|        | /mūsā/  | /īsā/   | /mūsā/              | /īsā/   |
| (FVS)  | a       | a       | a                   | a       |
| (NFVS) | —       | —       | u                   | i       |
|        | [mūsa]  | [īsa]   | [musa]              | [isa]   |
|        | Formal  |         | normal and informal |         |

As for the motivation of (FVS) it is noteworthy that no loanword surfaces with underlying long vowel in the final syllable.

#### Notes

- 1 See rule (HUF)  $\dot{\text{z}} \rightarrow \text{i} / \#$  in (3.11.2.1.3).
- 2 The second version is non-Tabriz, e.g., Baku, pronunciation.
- 3 A few others of this type are: [gæɾræ] gara 'black', [gærrænguʂ] garanguʂ 'swallow', [gælxan] galxan 'shield', [gæʂov] gaʂov 'curry-comb', [gæmci] gamci 'lash', etc.
- 4 A few others of this type are [gejci] gayci 'scissors', [gejiʂ] gayiʂ 'belt', [gejnær] gaynar 'boiling', [gejitmax] gayitmaq 'to return', etc.
- 5 A few others of this type are: [beʃar] / [bikar] < Persian bikār 'unemployed', [ʔah] / [gah] < Persian gāh 'sometimes', [ʔuja] / [gūja] < Persian gūyā 'as if, reportedly', [gælam] < Arabic qalam 'pen', [gætrae] < Arabic qatira 'drop', [gijamæt] < Arabic qiyāmat 'resurrection', etc.

6 The voiceless velar stop is not characteristic of normal and informal styles in the majority of Azerbaijani dialects except as a result of the devoicing of the first /g/ in a geminate -gg-, and the word [sakırkga] 'tick' in Tabriz speech. It is also produced by devoicing the /g/ before the voiceless obstruents and word-finally in poetic style, e.g., [baksan] </bagtsan] 'if thou lookst', [jok] </jog/ 'no', etc. In some Azerbaijani dialects like the Zagatala-Gakh, however, according to Shiraliyev (1967:75) the voiceless velar stop often replaces the palatal stop in other dialects as in [komak] in Zagatala-Gakh versus [k<sup>h</sup>ömæx] / [k<sup>h</sup>ömæx] 'help' in other dialects. In the Western dialect, too, the voiceless velar stop word-initially corresponds to /g/, e.g., [k<sup>h</sup>ış] in Western dialects for [gış] 'winter' in other dialects.

7 With respect to the context-free change of the voiceless velar stop, the rule of (RVS) reveals an asymmetry in synharmony characteristic of the majority (all?) of Azerbaijani dialects. If it is found that there are Azerbaijani dialects with both voiceless palatal stop/alveopalatal retroflex affricate [k̟]/[k̠] always occurring with front vowels, and velar stop [k] occurring in the environment of back vowels, the rule of (RVS) must be revised into:

$$\begin{bmatrix} +cns \\ +bk \\ -cnt \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-bk] / [-bk]$$

Such a revision may be necessary in the Zagatala-Gakh and Western Azerbaijani dialects (see Shiraliyev (1967:75)).

8 The theoretical framework adopted here has been derived from works like Chomsky (1964), Chomsky and Halle (1968), Schane (1971) and Kiparsky (1968). The adoption is partial because no use has been made of the theory of markedness introduced in Chomsky and Halle (1968).

The proposed derivation of [c̟ ɟ̟ k̟] from /ç ğ k̟/ receives theoretical support from works like Kisseberth (1969) and Hyman (1970).

9 A town in Northern Azerbaijan, near the border of Southern Azerbaijan.

10 Except in monosyllabic loans where the g is preceded by a liquid, a nasal, or a continuant, e.g., [bærg] <Arabic barq 'electricity', [færg] <Arabic farq 'distinction', [eʃg] <Arabic ʃisq 'love', [rizg] <Arabic rizq 'provision', [masg] <French masque 'mask', [tang] <Russian tank 'tank', also in polysyllabics in careful speech, e.g., [ʃæfæg] Arabic ʃafaq 'twilight.'

Post vocalic g's, however, in many loans obey the native rule. Hence, we have [ʃæfax] 'reflected light' <Arabic ʃafaq (?), [axmax] <Arabic aḥmaq 'fool', [tabax] <Arabic tabaq 'platter', [værax] <Arabic waraq 'leaf, sheet.'

11 We take the orthographic symbol ğ for voiced velar stop /g/ to be the underlying segment. This is supported by the fact that the

proposed underlying /g/ in literary pronunciation is [g] finally and before voiced segments, e.g., otag [otag] 'room' otagda [otagda] 'in the room'. While this seems a sufficient reason for positing /g/ as the underlying form, additional support may come if it is found that the few final [g]'s appearing in the stories quoted by Shirāliyev are not typographical errors for [g]'s. Forms with final [g] can be found in the texts quoted by Shirāliyev (1967) from the Baku dialect, e.g., [guraglig] 'drought' (p. 359); Märzä region [gulag] 'ear' (p. 369); Mughan group dialects: [axmag] 'fool' (p. 373), [anjag] 'only' (p. 374), [usag] 'child' (p. 376); Göyçay region: [dogrutmag] 'to materialize' (p. 377); Nakhchivan dialect [anjag] 'only' (p. 402).

<sup>12</sup>In the Northern literary dialect the word for 'hawk' is [guzgun]. The existence of other words with a [g] after a sonorant or a voiced fricative (e.g., [dalga] 'wave', [vurgun] 'in love', [jangi] 'thirst, fire', [sajgi] 'care', etc.) suggests the presence of a rule in the literary dialect that spirantizes the syllable-initial /g/ which is preceded by a vowel, sonorant, or a voiced fricative segment, i.e., a segment belonging to the class specified [+vce, +cnt]. However, this does not seem to be an exceptionless rule because of the existence of words like [algis] 'applause', [ilgar] 'vow, promise' and perhaps a few others. All of the examples have been taken from Äzizbäkov (1965).

<sup>13</sup>We interpret the terms 'popular' as 'normal', and 'popular literary' as a style with features from both the 'formal' and 'normal' styles of speech. See 1.17 for our understanding of the 'formal', 'normal' and 'informal' styles of speech.

<sup>14</sup>Page references are to Shirāliyev (1967).

<sup>15</sup>Emre's hypothesis (and indirectly our positing long underlying vowels for Azerbaijani) seems to receive support from the following by Baitchura (1975:104):

Our data and especially the distinctive features established by means of instrumental and phonologic investigations, enable one to reconstruct the Common Turkic or Preturkic vocalism as having 16 vowels:  
a, æ/e, u, ü, o, ö, I, i, ä, æ/e, u, ü, o, ö, I, i  
and thus may be corroborated by the reconstructions by M. Räsänen, N. N. Poppe, W. W. Radloff and K. H. Menges.

<sup>16</sup>Historically, as if by a process perhaps consisting of a change roughly like c[+vce]/v- followed by the change v → v/[-+vce], long vowels have been reduced to the length of the nonlong vowels, e.g., the 11th century Turkic forms [gap] 'dish' (Emre, 1949:65), [at] 'name', [kök] 'sky', [äč] 'hungry' (p. 61), are [gab], [ad], [göj]/[foj], [a]]/[aʃ], respectively in Azerbaijani.

<sup>17</sup>For a full treatment of the phonetic variants of Azerbaijani vowels see Akhundov (1973:108-39).

<sup>18</sup>As for the status of /i/ as an underlying segment it is to be noted that despite its change to [i] word-initially and finally in Tabriz

speech, /i/ does occur in these positions in many Azerbaijani dialects. E.g., in the literary dialect it occurs finally and in the Western dialects it apparently occurs both initially and finally (see note 2, Chapter 2).

<sup>19</sup>The rule could be  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \ddot{u} \\ u \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow i / -\#$  if we consider the few monosyllabic forms ending in the high back round vowel, e.g., [su] 'water', [bu] 'this', [ju] 'wash!' as exceptions. Except for the variant [bɨ] for [bu] 'this', the unrounding of the high back round vowel apparently does not take place.

<sup>20</sup>For the appearance of the transition glide see Chapter 4.

<sup>21</sup>[ana] and [nænæn] 'mother' are synonyms.





Table 3. The phonetic chart of the Azerbaijani consonants and vowels

|            | bilabial | dental | alveolar | retroflex | alveopalatal | palatal | velar | glottal |  |                 |   |             |   |
|------------|----------|--------|----------|-----------|--------------|---------|-------|---------|--|-----------------|---|-------------|---|
| Stops      | p        |        | t        |           |              |         | k     | ʔ       |  | ordinary vowels |   | long vowels |   |
| Fricatives | b        | f      | d        | s         | ʃ            | x       | g     | h       |  | i               | ü | ɨ           | u |
| Affricates |          | v      |          | z         | ʒ            | j       | ç     |         |  | e               | ö | ə           | o |
| Nasals     | m        |        |          | n         |              |         |       |         |  | æ               |   | ā           | ū |
| Lateral    |          |        |          | l         |              |         |       |         |  |                 |   |             |   |
| Flap       |          |        |          | r         |              |         |       |         |  |                 |   |             |   |
| Glides     | ww       |        |          |           |              | y       |       |         |  |                 |   |             |   |

## CHAPTER IV

### AZERBAIJANI PHONOLOGICAL RULES

4.1. This chapter is an attempt at presenting the phonological rules which, applying to the underlying segments of Azerbaijani words, derive the pronunciation of the Tabriz dialect of Azerbaijani.

Some of the rules have already been presented in chapters two and three. We have seen some of the basic rules like the rules which derive the phonetic forms of the Azerbaijani underlying segments, the rules of vowel lengthening, diphthongization, vowel sequences, etc.. Since such rules have been discussed relatively exhaustively, they will not be repeated here. When they are involved in derivations, references will be given to the sections in which they were motivated.

Below are presented the rules of vowel harmony, stress assignment, assimilations, additions, deletions, and a number of other rules which seem to be responsible for the pronunciation of Tabriz speech.

4.1. Vowel Harmony: Vowel harmony in Turkic languages, including Azerbaijani, is the backness/frontness or roundness/unroundness agreement among the vowels of a word. Generally speaking, descriptions of vowel harmony by generative phonologists have assumed vowel harmony to be an assimilation process directed from the root to the suffixes of a word. Consequently, to specify the vowel harmony in roots, there have been two approaches: (1) specifying all the vowels of the roots for backness/frontness feature by the abstract feature [+BACK]/[-BACK], (2) specifying

the first or the last vowel of the root for the feature in question and deriving it for the other vowels in the roots as well as the suffix vowels by a rule of progressive or regressive assimilation.

As Kiparsky (1968) argues, neither of these approaches fully accounts for vowel harmony. Briefly, both of the root marking approaches ignore the theory of markedness<sup>1</sup> which requires the full specification of every feature in the lexical representations. Further, because of the differences in the restrictions upon the occurrence of vowels in roots and suffixes, one rule cannot account for vowel harmony both in the roots and suffixes (see Kiparsky (1968) for a detailed discussion of these points).

In contradistinction to these approaches to the description of vowel harmony, Kiparsky introduces another approach in agreement with the theory of markedness, employing a rule of assimilation and the relevant morpheme structure condition.

In the following account of vowel harmony in Azerbaijani we adopt Kiparsky's approach. Accordingly, unlike the two root marking approaches, following Kiparsky's (1968) proposal, all the nine vowels of Azerbaijani will be fully specified in the roots, but the vowels in the suffixes listed in the lexicon will be from the two vowels /i a/. If the vowels in a suffix contrast in backness with that of the last vowel in the root, a rule of progressive assimilation from root to suffix will establish the vowel harmony. E.g., the plural suffix will be /lar/ which will be realized as such when added to a word with a back vowel in the last syllable of the root as in [ʃitaplar] </kitab+lar/ kitablar 'books' and the suffix of the presumptive past<sup>2</sup> will be /imiş/, but will be realized as [miş], [mɨş], [müş] and [muş] by the progressive assimilation directed from the last stem vowel, e.g., [bilirmiş] <

/bil+ir+imiš/ '(presumably) he knew', [jaz+rmış] </jaz+ir+imiš/ yaz+rmış  
 '(presumably) he was writing', [düzürmüş] </düz+ir+imiš/ düzürmüş  
 '(presumably) he was arranging', [dujürmüş] /duj+ir+imiš/ duyürmüş  
 '(presumably) he was surmising.'

4.1.1. As these examples show, the rule of vowel harmony should reflect the harmony of the suffix vowels with the last stem vowel in backness and roundness. The following rule seems to be the active rule of backness and roundness harmony in suffixes (SVH).

$$(SVH) \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ +hi \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \alpha bk \\ \langle \beta rnd \rangle \end{bmatrix} / \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ \alpha bk \\ \langle \beta rnd \rangle \end{bmatrix} (c)+(c)-$$

Left-to-right iterative

This rule states that the suffix vowel will acquire the backness feature of the last stem vowel, and that when the suffix vowel is the high front /i/, it also acquires the roundness feature of the last stem vowel. The application of the rule of suffix vowel harmony is reflected in the following derivations (the word for 'neighbor' is gonşu, the suffixes in the word for 'also those in our neighborhood' are: /lig/ abstract noun suffix, /im/ first person singular genitive suffix, /iz/ plural suffix for the first and second person genitive suffix, /da/ location suffix, /ki/ post location/time suffix of relation, /lar/ plural suffix, /i/ accusative case suffix, /da/ conjunctive suffix; the word for 'meeting' is görüş and the new elements in the word for 'also those in our meetings' are: /gör/ 'see', /iş/ verbal noun suffix):

- (RVS) (3.2.11) 'also those in our neighborhood'  
 /gonʂu+lɪg+im+iz+da+ki+lɑr+i+da/  
 k' k'  
 ʂ ʂ
- (TCFR) (3.2.12) 'also those in our meetings'  
 /göri+is+lɑr+im+iz+da+ki+lɑr+i+da/  
 ü æ æ æ æ æ
- (SVH) (4.1.1) [gonʂulugumuzdaʂi'lɑrɪda]  
 ʂ
- (HVSS) (3.6.4.1) [ʂöriʂlɑe ri'mizdæʂi'lɑe ri'dæ]

4.1.2. The development of vowel harmony in loans with greater degrees of nativization is accounted for by a rule of assimilation as follows. We may call this the nativization root vowel harmony (NRVH):

$$(NRVH) \left[ \begin{array}{c} +syl \\ \langle +hi \rangle \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{c} \alpha bk \\ \langle \beta rnd \rangle \end{array} \right] / c \left[ \begin{array}{c} \alpha bk \\ \beta rnd \end{array} \right] c$$

Note that by Bach's (1968) 'neighborhood convention' this rule reflects the collapsed form of the following two rules:

(a) the progressive root vowel harmony (PRVH)

$$(PRVH) \left[ \begin{array}{c} +syl \\ \langle +hi \rangle \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{c} \alpha bk \\ \langle \beta rnd \rangle \end{array} \right] / \left[ \begin{array}{c} \alpha bk \\ \beta rnd \end{array} \right] c -$$

This rule is responsible for vowel harmony in derivations like the following (the words for 'car' comes from the French machine, and the words for 'celery' and 'flower garden' come from the Persian karafs and golestan):

|                       | 'car'   | 'celery'   | 'flower garden' |
|-----------------------|---------|------------|-----------------|
|                       | /maʃɪn/ | /kæ ræ fs/ | /gulistan/      |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)         |         | k          | g               |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)        |         | ʃ          | ʒ               |
| (FVS)(3.11.3.4)       | i       |            |                 |
| (/f/-voicing)(4.7.12) |         | v          |                 |
| (Diph)(2.6.5.2)       |         | öw         |                 |
| (i-ep)(4.7.6)         |         | i          |                 |
| (FSV)                 |         | z          |                 |
| (Vce-Diss)(4.6.1)     |         |            | d               |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)         | ɨ       | ü          | ü               |
|                       | [maʃɨn] | [ʃæ rəwüz] | [ʒülüsdan]      |

Note that in [ʃæ rōwüz] there is a mid vowel in noninitial syllable. This is apparently permitted when the mid vowel is followed by a homorganic glide, e.g., [bilöw] </bilev/ bilov 'whetstone' (for more information about the appearance of round mid vowels in noninitial syllables see 2.3.5-5 and Chapter 2 note 6).

(b) the regressive root vowel harmony (RRVH)

$$(RRVH) \quad \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ \langle +hi \rangle \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \alpha bk \\ \langle \beta rnd \rangle \end{bmatrix} / - c \begin{bmatrix} \alpha bk \\ \beta rnd \end{bmatrix}$$

This rule is responsible for vowel harmony in derivations like the following (The words for 'mug' and 'sun-flower seed' come from the Russian Kruzka and semecko):

|               | 'mug'     | 'sun-flower seed' |
|---------------|-----------|-------------------|
|               | /gruʃga/  | /simiʃga/         |
| (MSR)(4.2)    | /         | /                 |
| (Spir)(4.4.1) |           | ʃ                 |
| (i-ep)(4.7.6) | i         |                   |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2) | u         |                   |
|               | [guruʃga] | [simiʃga]         |

It is to be mentioned that although this rule of (NRVH)(4.1.2) does not predict the direction of the application of vowel harmony, it seems that on the basis of the following derivations harmony is to a [+back] vowel.



|                   | 'machine' | Adam    | 'paper'  | 'comfortable' | 'hot bath' | 'cinema'  | 'lemon' | (proper name) |
|-------------------|-----------|---------|----------|---------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------------|
|                   | /maʃɪn/   | /ˈɑdæm/ | /kəˈɡæz/ | /rəˈhæʃt/     | /hætˈbɑːm/ | /sɪˈnema/ | /lɪˈmʊ/ | Kaʒɪm         |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)     |           |         |          |               |            |           |         | /kɑzɪm/       |
| (TCFR)            |           |         |          |               |            |           |         | ʃ             |
| (FVS)(3.11.3.4)   | i         |         |          |               | a          |           | u       | k             |
| (NFVS)(3.11.3.3)  |           | a       | a        | a             |            |           |         | ʃ             |
| (HVSS)(3.6.4.1)   |           |         |          |               |            |           |         |               |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)     | ʃ         | a       | a        | a             | a          | a         | u       | ʃ             |
| (HU)(3.11.2.2)    |           |         |          |               |            |           |         |               |
| (HUF)(3.11.2.1.3) |           |         |          |               |            |           |         |               |
|                   | [maʃɪn]   | [ˈɑdæm] | [ˈkæɡæz] | [rəhætʃ]      | [ˈhæmɑːm]  | [sɪnəmə]  | [ˈlɪmɪ] | [ˈkɑzɪm]      |

This observation, however, is to be modified with regard to three points. First, a tendency which perhaps is unformulatable at the present allows the occurrence of the high front vowel /i/ in the initial syllable, and the low back vowel /a/ in the final syllable of some words in Azerbaijani, e.g., [tɪʃan] tikan 'thorn', [sɪçan] siçan 'mouse', [dæʒirman] dəgirman 'mill', [pɪçax] bıçaq 'knife', etc.. Secondly, just as the backness harmony seems to be directed from the back vowels to the nonback vowels in the root, the height harmony, too, (which compared with the backness and roundness harmonies is less binding) seems to be directed from the high back vowel /u/, e.g., [tilifun] < telefun < /telefon/ English telephone. Thirdly, the presence of a [+hi, -bk] stop seems to affect vowel harmony in the form of fronting the /a/ to [a] and the /u/ to [u] in some words as shown in the following derivations. We suggest to call this synharmonic change the palatal assimilation (P-Ass):

(all the loans come from Persian)

|                  | 'caravan' | 'short'  | 'factory'    | 'jug'   | 'shop'  |
|------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|---------|---------|
|                  | /k̄arvan/ | /k̄ütah/ | /k̄ar#x̄ane/ | /k̄üze/ | /tokan/ |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)    | k̄        | k̄       | k̄           | k̄      | k̄      |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)   | ʃ̄        | ʃ̄       | ʃ̄           | ʃ̄      | ʃ̄      |
| (FVS)(3.11.3.4)  |           | a        |              |         |         |
| (NFVS)(3.11.3.3) | a         | u        | a            | a       | u       |
| (P-Ass)(4.1.3)   | æ         | ü        | æ            | ü       | ü       |
| (MVC)(4.7.1)     |           |          |              | æ       | a       |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)    |           |          |              | a       |         |
|                  | [ʃ̄ærvan] | [ʃ̄ütah] | [ʃ̄ærxana]   | [ʃ̄üzæ] | [tüşan] |

4.1.3. The (P-Ass) may tentatively be formulated according to Bach's (1968) 'neighborhood convention' as follows:

$$(P-Ass) \left[ \begin{array}{c} +syl \\ \left\langle \begin{array}{c} -hi \\ -lo \\ +rnd \end{array} \right\rangle \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{c} -bk \\ \left\langle [+hi] \right\rangle \end{array} \right] / \left[ \begin{array}{c} -cnt \\ +hi \\ -bk \\ -vce \end{array} \right]$$

This rule states that back vowels are fronted in the environment of the [k'] (which later becomes [k̂] in Tabriz). When the back vowel is the /o/, it is both raised and fronted to [u]. Note that (P-Ass) is a minor rule inapplicable to many words including [agaz] </kāgæz/ kagaz Persian kāgæz 'paper', [maβina] </makina/ 'machine, gaget' < ? etc.

4.1.4. Reference should also be made to an 'unrounding harmony' (UH) as witnessed in the following derivations of the words for 'cigarette' and 'musician' from the Russian papirosa and muzikant:

|                  | 'cigarette' | 'musician' |
|------------------|-------------|------------|
|                  | /papiros/   | /muzigan/  |
| (MVC)(4.7.1)     | u           |            |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)    | u           |            |
| (UH)(4.1.4)      | i i         | i          |
| (Syncope)(4.7.3) |             | ∅          |
| (FSV)(4.7.11)    | z           |            |
|                  | [papiriz]   | [mizgan]   |

To the sketch of vowel harmony a note must be added concerning a major source of the breach of vowel harmony in some dialects of Azerbaijani. In some dialects of Azerbaijani including the Tabriz dialect, the first person plural personal suffix of the imperative mood [ax], the first person plural personal suffix of the very 'to be' [ux], the futurity suffix [aʒax], the comparative adjective or adverb suffix [rax], the abstract noun forming suffix [lix], and some others, have exclusively back vowels. In some other dialects of Azerbaijani including

the Baku dialect there is a reverse tendency. E.g., in the Baku dialect the infinitive suffix has exclusively the low front vowel (see Shiräliyev, 1967:63).

The breach of vowel harmony is also encountered among a considerable number of loanwords which have not been thoroughly nativized. The following examples represent such loans with the breach of vowel harmony: [ägil] </agil/ <Arabic ṣāgil 'wise', with a breach of backness harmony; [televizijon] </televizion/ <French television 'television', with the breach of the constraint, implemented by the rule of mid vowel change (MVC), which prohibits the occurrence of the mid vowels in noninitial syllables; and [isdîān] </stakan/ <Russian stakan 'tumbler', with the breach of backness harmony.

As for accounting for the vowel harmony breaches, presently, we do not find a simpler way than adopting Jensen's (1972) solution, i.e., specifying the unharmonious segment in the morphemes with the relevant [-VH] feature in the lexicon. E.g., the word for 'thorn' will be /tikān/, [-BH], the word for 'television' will be /televizijon/, [-MVC][-MVC] and the infinitive suffix will be /mag/, [-BH].

4.2. Stress assignment: In Azerbaijani words, stress usually falls on the last syllable except when it is stopped before a number of suffixes which after Lightner (1972), we call 'unstressable suffixes.' E.g., a word like alişdilar 'they were kindled' is stressed on the vowel of the last syllable because, with regard to stress assignment in Azerbaijani, word boundary plays the role of the sole unstressable unit in this word. But in alışmadilar 'they were not kindled' the main stress has been stopped by -ma (negative marker) which is one of the unstressable suffixes.

Main stress assignment in Azerbaijani seems to be adequately describable by Lightner's (1972:357) Turkish stress rule:

(MSR)  $V \rightarrow [+stress]/-C_0 [-MSR]$ , where  $[-MSR]$  stands for any unit which is an exception to MSR, and the application of the rule is iterative, right-to-left.

To make correct use of this rule, as Lightner himself observes, a convention proposed in SPE needs to be adopted:

When primary stress is placed in a certain position, then, all other stresses in the string under consideration at that point are automatically weakened by one. (Chomsky and Halle, 1968:16-17)

Now, we get alışdı<sup>1</sup>lar by the above MSR, and alışmadı<sup>1</sup>lar by the iterative application of the MSR. The first application of the MSR gives \*alışmadı<sup>1</sup>lar. But since there is another environment, i.e., the presence of the negative marker -ma- an unstressable suffix for the application of the rule, it reapplies giving \*alışmadı<sup>1</sup>lar which in turn is changed to alışmadı<sup>1</sup>lar because the second assignment of primary stress reduces the primary stress on the last syllable to secondary stress.

Let us look at another example:

# æl+mæ+miş+di+lær # 'they had not come'

|        |    |  |     |
|--------|----|--|-----|
| MSR 1) |    | 1  |     |
|        | 2) | 1  | 2   |
|        | 3) | 1  | 2 3 |
|        |    | [æ <sup>1</sup> l mæ miş di læ <sup>2</sup> r] |     |

This example has three unstressable units, i.e., the word boundary (which despite having the feature  $[-segment]$  (Chomsky and Halle, 1968:66), plays the role of an unstressable unit in Azerbaijani), the past tense marker di, and the negative marker ma. The MSR applies first to the rightmost syllable before an unstressable unit, hence the vowel of the

last syllable is stressed. Since there are two other unstressable units, i.e., di and ma, the application of the rule is twice iterated from right to left; and each time a different vowel receives primary stress, the previous primary stress is reduced.

4.2.1. The MSR of Azerbaijani seems to be almost exceptionless. The few exceptions to it, too, appear to be classifiable into two groups: (1) those words that are always stressed on the initial syllable, and (2) those words that can be stressed on the first or the last syllable.

To the first group which has to be specified in the lexicon as carrying initial stress belong (a) a handful of adverbs like [ánʒax] < anjag 'only', [dúnæn] dunan 'yesterday', [büjün] bu gün 'today', [bæɫæ] balka 'so that, perhaps', (b) a few compounds like [géjnana] gayınana 'mother-in-law', [géjnata] gayınata 'father-in-law.'

To the second group, also to be specified in the lexicon accordingly, belong (a) nouns in the vocative mood, e.g., [ána]~[aná] 'Mother!' etc., and (b) some adverbs like [búrda]~[burdá] burada 'here', [hámmsi]~[hammsi] hammsi 'all of it/them', etc..

Beyond these there do not seem to be exceptions to Azerbaijani MSR cited above. It is noteworthy that MSR is one of the basic rules for the nativization of loanwords.

4.2.2. With the exception of the just mentioned two groups that do not obey the Main Stress Rule of Azerbaijani, or obey it optionally, all the Azerbaijani words undergo the MSR.

When they form compounds or noun phrases, words do not retain the stress pattern of their isolated state, because it yields to the stress pattern of the new grammatical unit. Thus, in compound nouns the MSR is applied to the whole compound structure, and this removes the primary

stress from the adjective while confirming the main stress of the noun. E.g., in isolation the words [áǵ] 'white' and [bircaéǰ] 'hair' individually obey the main stress rule, but when they form the compound [àǵbircaéǰ] 'the white haired one' the whole new word is subjected to the Main Stress Rule, and the final syllable of this new word receives the main stress.

In noun phrases, on the contrary, the primary stress of the adjective component is confirmed while the noun component of the NP loses its primary stress. E.g., when they form the noun phrase 'white hair', the words [áǵ] 'white' and [bircaéǰ] 'hair' find a new stress pattern [áǵbircaéǰ] where the adjective component of the NP receives the main stress.

4.2.3. The stress assignment in the compound nouns and NP's can be explained by the following rules based on the model of similar rules in Chomsky and Halle (1968:17):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(CSR)} \quad V &\rightarrow [+stress] / \dots \overset{1}{\underset{\cdot}{V}} \dots \text{---}]_N \\ \text{(NPSR)} \quad V &\rightarrow [+stress] / \text{---} \dots \overset{1}{\underset{\cdot}{V}} \dots \text{---}]_{NP} \end{aligned}$$

The compound stress rule (CSR) reassigns primary stress to the second of the two primary stresses in a compound in Azerbaijani. In other words, in Az. compound nouns the primarily stressed vowel is that of the second word. And the noun phrase stress rule (NPSR) reassigns primary stress to the primary stress of the first of the two primarily stressed words in a noun phrase. I.e., in Azerbaijani noun phrases, the primarily stressed vowel is that of the first word.

The assignment of the main stress in compound nouns and noun phrases may be exemplified as follows:

|        | 'white'                | 'hair'           | 'white'              | 'hair'                   |
|--------|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
|        | $[_N^A [ag]_A]$        | $[_N^bircæx]_N]$ | $[_{NP}^A [ag]_A]$   | $[_N^bircax]_{NP}]_{NP}$ |
| (MSR)  | 1                      | 1                | 1                    | 1                        |
| (CSR)  | 2                      | 1                |                      |                          |
| (NPSR) |                        |                  | 1                    | 2                        |
|        | $[\grave{a}gbircæx]$   |                  | $[\acute{a}gbircæx]$ |                          |
|        | 'the white haired one' |                  | 'white hair'         |                          |

4.3. Rules of cluster simplification: Consonant clusters consisting of two consonants are quite common medially, of restricted occurrence finally, and nonexistent initially in the Tabriz dialect of Azerbaijani. This basic tendency in Tabriz speech is reflected in well assimilated loanwords. E.g., the words 'club', 'American', and 'sport' in their Azerbaijani version clearly reflect the permitted consonant cluster pattern in Azerbaijani. In [gulup] and [isport] epenthetic vowels have broken up the unpermitted initial clusters; the liquid + stop cluster of 'sport', which corresponds with admissible final clusters in Azerbaijani, has been accepted, and the vcvvcvc structure of American has changed to vcvccvc as a result of the application of the syncope rule (4.7.3). This creates a permissible medial cluster in [amirgan] in accordance with the pattern of medial bisegmental clusters in Azerbaijani.

In normal and informal styles of speech, many of the word-final and medial clusters are simplified, e.g., [üs] </üst/ 'top', [at] </alt/ 'under', [üsdæ] </üst+da/ 'on', [atda] </alt+da/ 'under' (adv.).

4.3.1. Word-final and medial clusters in Azerbaijani are simplified in Azerbaijani by the following rules:



$$\text{(Son-Del)} \quad \begin{bmatrix} +\text{son} \\ +\text{cor} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \emptyset / - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\text{cnt} \\ -\text{bk} \\ -\text{lo} \end{array} \right\} \left[ \begin{array}{l} [-\text{syll}] \\ \# \end{array} \right]$$

This rule by deleting the sonorant segment before affricates, stops (except before glottal stop and velar stops), and the voiceless alveolar and velar fricatives accounts for the simplification of the consonant clusters in the following sample derivations. The feature [-lo] is needed to block the application of the rule to words like [mæɪn] </mæɪnɹ/ <Arabic mans 'prohibition', [ʃæɪr] </sæɪrɹ/ <Arabic ʃars 'sacred law.' And the feature [-bk] is needed to block the application of the rule to words like [bæɪrg] </bæɪrg/ <Arabic barq 'electricity', [tæɪlg] </tæɪlg/ <Arabic talq 'talc', [tæɪŋ] </tæɪŋ/ <Russian tank 'tank'. In the following derivations the words for 'lesson' and 'heart' come from the Arabic dars and qalb, and 'bitter' comes from Persian [tæɪlx].

|          |         |        |          |         |          |
|----------|---------|--------|----------|---------|----------|
| 'lesson' | 'heart' | 'wolf' | 'radish' | 'under' | 'gutter' |
| /dæɪrs/  | /gæɪlb/ | /gurd/ | /turb/   | /alt/   | /æɪrx/   |
|          | [-syn]  |        |          |         |          |

(RVS)(3.2.11)

(Son-Del)(4.3.1)             $\emptyset$              $\emptyset$              $\emptyset$              $\emptyset$              $\emptyset$              $\emptyset$

(Devoicing)(4.4.2)

|        |        |       |       |      |       |
|--------|--------|-------|-------|------|-------|
|        | p      | t     | p     |      |       |
| [dæɪs] | [gæɪp] | [gut] | [tup] | [at] | [æɪx] |

|          |         |        |           |        |
|----------|---------|--------|-----------|--------|
| 'bitter' | 'firm'  | 'jaw'  | 'measure' | 'calm' |
| /tæɪlx/  | /bæɪrk/ | /æɪng/ | /ölč/     | /dɪŋ/  |

(RVS)(3.2.11)

(Son-Del)(4.3.1)             $\emptyset$              $\emptyset$              $\emptyset$              $\emptyset$              $\emptyset$

(Devoicing)(4.4.2)

|        |        |       |      |       |
|--------|--------|-------|------|-------|
|        | x      | x     | š    | š     |
| [tæɪx] | [bæɪx] | [æɪx] | [öš] | [dɪš] |

4.3.2. Two other rules of cluster simplification in Azerbaijani are described in the following paragraphs:

4.3.2.1. According to one rule the [+ant, +cor, -cut] segments are deleted if they follow a fricative and occur preconsonantly or word-finally. This is the rule of stop deletion (Stop-Del):

$$(\text{Stop-Del}) \begin{bmatrix} +\text{cns} \\ +\text{ant} \\ +\text{cor} \\ -\text{cut} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \emptyset / \begin{bmatrix} -\text{son} \\ +\text{cnt} \end{bmatrix} - \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} [-\text{syll}] \\ \# \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

This rule accounts for the final cluster simplification in native and loan word such as in the following derivations (the words for 'petroleum' and 'present' come from the Persian naft and the Arabic naqd. Rasht and Yazd are cities in Persia.):

|                     |        |       |             |           |              |             |
|---------------------|--------|-------|-------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
|                     | 'shoe' | 'top' | 'petroleum' | 'present' | <u>Rasht</u> | <u>Yazd</u> |
|                     | /ʃust/ | /üst/ | /næft/      | /nægd/    | /ræʃt/       | /jæzd/      |
| (Spir)(4.4.1)       |        |       |             | g         |              |             |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)      |        | c     |             |           |              |             |
| (Stop-Del)(4.3.2.1) | ∅      | ∅     | ∅           | ∅         | ∅            | ∅           |
|                     | [cus]  | [üs]  | [næf]       | [næg]     | [ræʃ]        | [jæz]       |

4.3.2.2. According to another rule, the post consonantal glottal stop and fricative are deleted preconsonantly and word-finally. We may call this the rule of low consonant deletion (LCD):

$$(\text{LCD}) \begin{bmatrix} +\text{cns} \\ +\text{lo} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \emptyset / [+cns] - \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} [-\text{syll}] \\ \# \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

The application of this rule is reflected in the following derivations. All the loans come from Arabic:

|                |       |           |              |              |        |         |
|----------------|-------|-----------|--------------|--------------|--------|---------|
|                | 'rub' | 'victory' | 'one-fourth' | 'collection' | 'part' | 'law'   |
|                | /mæʃ/ | /fæθ/     | /rubʔ/       | /jæmʔ/       | /ʃüzʔ/ | /ʒæ rʔ/ |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12) |       |           |              | ʒ            | ʒ      |         |
| (LCD)(4.3.2.2) | ∅     | ∅         | ∅            | ∅            | ∅      | ∅       |
|                | [mæʃ] | [fæθ]     | [rub]        | [ʒæm]        | [ʃüz]  | [ʒæ r]  |

The rules (Son-Del), (Stop-Del), and (LCD) account also for cluster simplification in the words with medial three-consonant clusters, as in (/dan/ is the ablative suffix; /li/ indicates possession; /çi/ indicates profession):

|                     |         |          |              |                 |                |
|---------------------|---------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
|                     | 'sixty' | 'pygmy'  | 'from above' | 'with shoes on' | 'mail carrier' |
|                     | /atmɪʃ/ | /ʃɪrtɒn/ | /üst+dan/    | /çust+li/       | /post+çi/      |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)      |         | ʒ        |              | c               | c              |
| (Son Del)(4.3.1)    | ∅       | ∅        |              |                 |                |
| (Stop-Del)(4.3.2.1) |         |          | ∅            | ∅               | ∅              |
| (SVH)(4.1.1)        |         |          | æ            | u               | u              |
| (HU)(3.11.2.2)      |         |          |              | ɨ               | ɨ              |
| (HUF)(3.11.2.1.3)   |         |          |              | i               | i              |
|                     | [atmɪʃ] | [ʃɪrtɒn] | [üstæ n]     | [cusli]         | [posçi]        |

4.4. Other processes: The following are the rules of spirantization, devoicing, assimilation, and dissimilation which are productive in Tabriz speech.

4.4.1. Spirantization: affricates and [+high] stops /ç ʃ/, [k ɡ] and /g/ are spirantized preconsonantly and word-finally, in many dialects of Azerbaijani, including the Tabriz dialect, by the following rule:

$$(\text{Spir}) \left[ \begin{array}{c} +\text{cns} \\ +\text{hi} \\ [-\text{bk}] \\ [+ \text{bk}] \\ [+ \text{vce}] \end{array} \right] \rightarrow [+ \text{cnt}] / \text{v} - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [-\text{sy}] \\ \# \end{array} \right\}$$

This rule accounts for the following derivations in normal and informal style of speech in the Tabriz dialect.

|                    |  |   |   |    |    |    |   |   |   |  |   |  |
|--------------------|--|---|---|----|----|----|---|---|---|--|---|--|
|                    | /üč#dörd//üč//güj+li//güj//kæklik//gög//gonag//uşag+lar/ |   |   |    |    |    |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)      |  | ğ | ğ | ķ  | ķ  | ķ  | ğ | ğ |   |  |   |  |
| (Spir)(4.4.1)      | ş  | ş | ž | ž  | ı  | ı  | j |   |   |  |   |  |
| (Devoicing)(4.4.2) | t  |   |   |    |    |    |   |   | x |  | x |  |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)     |  |   |   | ʃ̥ | ʃ̥ | ʃ̥ |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| (SVH)(4.1.1)       |  |   | ü |    |    |    |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| (HU)(3.11.2.2)     |  |   | i |    |    |    |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| (j-rnd)(4.7.8)     |  |   |   |    |    |    |   |   | w |  |   |  |

[üšdört][üš][ʃ̥üžli][ʃ̥üž][ʃ̥æxlix][ʃ̥öw][gonax][uşaxlar]

4.4.2. Devoicing: The existence of pronunciations like [boşgəp] </boşgab/ boşgab 'plate', [murat] </murad/ <Arabic Murad, [bulax] </bulag/ bulag 'water spring', [oruş] </oruş/ oruş 'fasting', [tabaxci] /tabagçi/ tabagçi 'street vendor', [oruşlux] </oruş+lig/ oruşlug 'fasting period', etc., indicates the existence of a rule in Azerbaijani by which all stops and affricates constituting the final segment of a polysyllabic stem are devoiced. A general rule like<sup>3</sup>:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{-son} \\ \text{-cnt} \end{array} \right] \rightarrow [-\text{vce}] / \text{cvcv} - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [-\text{sy}] \\ \# \end{array} \right\}$$

which includes all the stops and affricates cannot account for all the above mentioned derivations. It can account for the nonhigh stops which are devoiced into their corresponding voiceless counterparts, but not for the high stops and the affricate whose devoicing in many Azerbaijani dialects including the Tabriz dialect is inseparable from spirantization. Hence the above general rule, which perhaps does exist in some Azerbaijani dialects, in the case of some other dialects of Azerbaijani, including

the Tabriz dialect, needs to be revised into the following form which accounts for both the nonhigh stops and the high stops and affricate in the cited words above:

$$\text{(Devoicing)} \begin{bmatrix} -\text{son} \\ -\text{cnt} \\ \alpha\text{hi} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -\text{vce} \\ \alpha\text{cnt} \end{bmatrix} / \text{cvcv} - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [-\text{sy1}] \\ \# \end{array} \right\}$$

4.4.2.1. This rule is the collapsed form of the following two rules of nonhigh stop devoicing (NHSD) and high stop and affricate spirantization and devoicing (HSASD).

The rule of nonhigh stop devoicing is:

$$\text{(NHSD)} \begin{bmatrix} -\text{son} \\ -\text{cnt} \\ -\text{hi} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-\text{vce}] / \text{cvcv} - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [-\text{sy1}] \\ \# \end{array} \right\}$$

As the structural description of (NHSD) shows, this rule does not apply to the fricatives in Tabriz speech. This can be deduced from the existence of the pronunciations like [bilöw] </bilev/ bilov 'whetstone', [namaz] </næmāz/ < Persian nāmāz 'worship', [ejvæz] Eyvāz (proper name), [garaž] </garaž/ < French garage, etc..

4.4.2.2. The rule of high stop and affricate spirantization and devoicing (HSASD) is:

$$\text{(HSASD)} \begin{bmatrix} -\text{son} \\ -\text{cnt} \\ +\text{hi} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -\text{vce} \\ +\text{cnt} \end{bmatrix} / \text{cvcv} - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [-\text{sy1}] \\ \# \end{array} \right\}$$

The application of the (NHSD) and (HSASD) is reflected in the following derivations:

|                  | (proper name) | 'wing'  | 'guest' | 'fasting' |
|------------------|---------------|---------|---------|-----------|
|                  | /zejnæb/      | /ganad/ | /gonag/ | /oruʃ/    |
| (NHSD)(4.4.2.1)  | p             | t       |         |           |
| (HSASD)(4.4.2.2) |               |         | x       | ʒ         |
|                  | [zejnæp]      | [ganat] | [gonax] | [oruʒ]    |

4.4.3. Note, however, that the spirantization and devoicing of the voiced affricate /ʒ/ and the high nonback [g̊] is not restricted to the environment of the rule of high stop and affricate spirantization and devoicing (HSASD). These segments are spirantized and devoiced morphemefinally after sonorants, e.g., [mæʒ] < /mæ:rj/ marj 'bet', [ʒ̥úx̥]/[g̊úx̥] güŋg 'pipe', [narɨʒ] < /nārinj/ < Persian nārenj 'sour orange.' Note that this in addition to spirantization and devoicing of the stops and the affricate also deletes the sonorants. It seems that by revising (HSASD) into the rule of general high consonant spirantization and devoicing (GHSD)

$$(GHSD) \begin{bmatrix} -son \\ -cnt \\ +hi \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +cnt \\ -vce \end{bmatrix} / (cvcv) - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [-sy1] \\ \# \end{array} \right\}$$

and ordering it after (Son Del)(4.3.1) spirantization and devoicing of /j/ and [g] can be accounted for in both polysyllabic and monosyllabic words, as shown in the following derivations:

|                  |  |   |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------------|--|---|----|----|----|----|----|
|                  | /oruʒ//agaʒ//mæ:rj//diŋj//güŋg//agaʒ+da//güŋg+da/    |   |    |    |    |    |    |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)    |  |   |    | g̊ | g̊ | g̊ | g̊ |
| (Son-Del)(4.3.1) |  |   | ∅  | ∅  | ∅  |    | ∅  |
| (GHSD)(4.4.3)    | ʒ  | ʒ | ʒ̥ | ʒ̥ | x̥ | ʒ̥ | x̥ |
| (HVSS)(3.6.4.1)  |  | g |    |    |    | g  |    |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)   |  |   |    | ʒ̥ |    |    | ʒ̥ |
| (SVH)(4.1.1)     |  |   |    |    |    |    | æ  |
|                  | [oruʒ][agaʒ][mæ:ʒ̥][diʒ̥] [ʒ̥úx̥] [agaʒda] [ʒ̥úx̥dæ] |   |    |    |    |    |    |

4.4.4. Nevertheless, since after the application of (Son Del) (4.3.1) the monosyllabic words like güŋg 'pipe' and diŋj 'calm' will have an intermediate stage like \*[g̊úg̊] and \*[diʒ̥] (in the derivations: [ʒ̥úx̥]/[g̊úx̥] < g̊úg̊ < /güŋg/ 'pipe' and [diʒ̥] < diʒ̥ < /diŋj/ 'calm'), it will be a valid question to ask why the intermediate stages [g̊úg̊] and [diʒ̥],

etc. do not undergo the rule of spirantization (without devoicing) and become \*[y<sup>h</sup>üj]/[g<sup>h</sup>üj] and \*[diž] just as spirantization without devoicing occurs in [f<sup>h</sup>öj]/[g<sup>h</sup>öj] </gög/ 'sky', [už] </už/ 'point', etc.? While it does not seem improbable that this really is the case in some dialects of Azerbaijani, i.e., that [f<sup>h</sup>üj]/[g<sup>h</sup>üj] and [diž] occur, for the Tabriz [f<sup>h</sup>üx] </güng/ 'pipe' and [diš] </dinj/ 'calm', we suggest to account for the spirantization and devoicing of the post sonorant /j/ [g] to [š x] by the following transformational rule which both deletes the sonorant segment preceding /j/ [g] and spirantizes and devoices the /j/ [g]:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \text{(D \& Son Del)} & [+syl] & [+son] & \left[ \begin{array}{c} -son \\ +hi \\ -bk \end{array} \right] & \left\{ \begin{array}{c} [-syl] \\ \# \end{array} \right\} & \Rightarrow & \emptyset & \left[ \begin{array}{c} +cnt \\ -vce \end{array} \right] \\
 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4
 \end{array}$$

This rule accounts for the simultaneous spirantization and devoicing of the post-sonorant /j/ [g]'s independently of the rules of spirantization (4.4.1) and devoicing (4.4.2).

4.4.5. It seems, however, that the above rule can be made more general so that it may account for the derivations like [šæ̥t] </kæ̥nd/ 'village', [gæ̥t] </gḁnd/ < Arabic qand 'sugar'. (Note that in [gæ̥t] n-deletion apart, nativization has stopped with prelexical change of the /q/ to /g/ and /ā/ to /æ̥/.) Consequently, we revise the above rule to the following rule of simultaneous sonorant deletion and spirantization and devoicing (D & Son Del):

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \text{(D \& Son Del)} & [+syl] & [+son] & \left[ \begin{array}{c} -son \\ \alpha hi \\ -bk \end{array} \right] & \left\{ \begin{array}{c} [-syl] \\ \# \end{array} \right\} & \Rightarrow & \emptyset & \left[ \begin{array}{c} \alpha cnt \\ -vce \end{array} \right] \\
 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4
 \end{array}$$

4.4.6. Devoicing in Tabriz speech is not restricted to the output of the already mentioned two rules of devoicing. The final stop in words like [ot] 'fire' and [süt] 'milk', too, reflects an unpredictable

devoicing. Devoicing in such cases is unpredictable because on the basis of their pronunciation in some Azerbaijani dialects, like the literary dialect, as well as in earlier records, these words underlyingly end in voiced stops. At a closer examination, however, such instances of devoicing seem to reflect archaism.

Similarly, we seem to encounter archaism in some words with initial [p], e.g., [pišmiš] bišmiš 'cooked food', which is pišig in Kashghari (I, 379-2). Such instances of devoicing along with loanwords with devoiced initial stops (e.g., [tüşan] < Persian dokan 'shop' are noticeable because in the majority of the cases the earlier voiceless initial stops occur voiced in contemporary Azerbaijani.

4.5. Progressive assimilation: we find the following rules of progressive assimilation in the Tabriz dialect of Azerbaijani.

4.5.1. Denasalization: This rule is responsible for the denasalization of the [m] in suffixes such as the (unstressable) suffix -ma of negation (e.g., [gapba] </gap+ma/ 'Do not snatch/bite!') or the (stressable) suffix -ma used to nominalize verbs (e.g., [gapba] </gap+ma/ 'snatching/biting'). The difference in the place of the primary stress arises from the fact that the negation suffix -ma is unstressable whereas the verbal noun suffix -ma is stressable (see 4.2). The rule of denasalization (De Nas) is:

$$(\text{De Nas}) \begin{bmatrix} +\text{ant} \\ -\text{cor} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-\text{nas}] / \begin{bmatrix} +\text{ant} \\ -\text{cor} \\ -\text{cnt} \end{bmatrix} -$$

In this rule, the feature [-cnt] is needed to block the application of (De Nas) to words like [sowmax] </sav+mag/ sovmaq 'to finish, to pass by.'

4.5.2. Delateralization to nasal: By this rule the [l] in the



l-initial suffixes assimilates to the final alveolar nasal of the preceding stem. The rule of delateralization to nasal (Del to Nas) is:

$$(\text{Del to Nas}) \quad [+lat] \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -lat \\ -cnt \\ +nas \end{bmatrix} / \begin{bmatrix} +ant \\ +cor \\ +nas \end{bmatrix} \text{---}$$

This rule, apparently, applies only to the morpheme-initial /l/ in suffixes. In the following derivations this rule has changed the initial [l] of the verb forming suffix -la and the adjective forming suffix -li. The word ban 'crow (of the rooster)' and the word jan 'soul' are nouns.

|                     |          |                 |
|---------------------|----------|-----------------|
|                     | 'Crow!'  | 'living, alive' |
|                     | /ban+la/ | /jan+li/        |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)      |          | ʒ               |
| (Del to Nas)(4.5.2) | n        | n               |
| (SVH)(4.1.1)        |          | ɨ               |
| (HU)(3.11.2.2)      |          | i               |
|                     | [banna]  | [ʒanni]         |

Like all the rules in this chapter, (Del to Nas), too, belongs to the normal and informal styles of speech. The rule does not apply to formal style, hence we hear the alternants [banla] and [ʒanli] in this style.

4.5.3. Delateralization to stops: This rule accounts for the assimilation of the morpheme-initial /l/ of suffixes to the stem-final nonhigh stops (i.e., /t/, /d/). The rule of delateralization to stops (Del to Stp) is:

$$(\text{Del to Stp}) \quad [+lat] \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -son \\ -lat \\ -cnt \end{bmatrix} / \begin{bmatrix} +ant \\ +cor \\ -cnt \end{bmatrix} \text{---}$$

The rule (Del to Stp) accounts for derivations like the following where the /l/ of the plural suffix -lar, the transitive and intransitive

verb derivation suffixes like -la and -lan respectively, the reciprocity verb suffix -laš, the adjective suffix -li, etc., changes to the preceding

nonhigh stop:

|                     |          |             |               |                                    |            |
|---------------------|----------|-------------|---------------|------------------------------------|------------|
|                     | 'horses' | 'Fold (it)' | 'Be mounted!' | 'Talk about troubles with someone' | 'villager' |
|                     | /at+lar/ | /gat+la/    | /at+lan/      | /dærd+laš/                         | /kænd+li/  |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)       |          |             |               |                                    | k          |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)      |          |             |               |                                    | ʃ          |
| (Devoicing)(4.4.2)  |          |             |               | t                                  |            |
| (SVH)(4.1.1)        |          |             |               | æ                                  |            |
| (D&SonDel)(4.4.5)   |          |             |               |                                    | øt         |
| (Del to Stp)(4.5.3) | d        | d           | d             | d                                  | d          |
|                     | [atdar]  | [gatda]     | [atdan]       | [dærtɔæš]                          | [kæntli]   |

The Tabriz pronunciation for 'Fold (it)!' is not [gatda], but [gætdæ]. There are other words, too, which reflect a breach of syn-harmony in Tabriz speech, as in [gæræ] </gara/ gara 'black', etc.

The two rules of delateralization can be collapsed into:

$$[+lat] \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +ant \\ -lat \\ -cnt \\ \alpha nas \end{bmatrix} / \begin{bmatrix} +ant \\ +cor \\ -cnt \\ \alpha nas \end{bmatrix} -$$

This rule can account for the pronunciation of the examples cited for both the rules of delateralization-to nasal, and delateralization-to stops.

4.5.4. Delateralization to r: This rule changes the /l/ in the suffixes cited in (4.5.3) to the final r of the stem, as in [garri] </gar+li/ 'snowy', [ʒindirri] </ʒindir+li/ 'shabby', etc.. The rule of delateralization to r (Del-to r) is:

$$(\text{Del-to } r) \begin{bmatrix} +son \\ +cor \\ -nas \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [-lat] / \begin{bmatrix} +son \\ +cor \\ -nas \\ -lat \end{bmatrix} -$$

But a form like [gæˈlɪllæɹ] / [ʔæˈlɪllæɹ] </gæˈlɪr+lɑr/ 'they are coming' with a regressive assimilation contradicts this rule which predicts a progressive assimilation as in [gæˈlɪrræɹ] / [ʔæˈlɪrræɹ] </gæˈlɪr+lɑr/ 'incomes.' The problem is pointed out by Akhundov (1973:298) who rightly sees a connection between the kind of the assimilation with the grammatical status of the stems in the words for 'incomes' and 'they are coming' (the stem in the former is a noun, in the latter a finite verb). We may add that beyond the grammatical difference and connected with it, there is a difference in the position of the primary stress in the two words. (I.e., in [ʔæˈlɪrræɹ] 'incomes' the primary stress is on the suffix vowel, whereas in [ʔæˈlɪllæɹ] 'they are coming' the primary stress is on the last stem syllable) In other words, the connection between the kind of the assimilation and the grammatical status of the word is determined by the stress pattern of the word.

Specifically, when we compare [ʔæˈlɪrræɹ] 'incomes' with [ʔæˈlɪllæɹ] 'they are coming', it appears that the assimilation in both words results from the association of the segment undergoing assimilation with the primarily stressed vowel. In [ʔæˈlɪrræɹ] </gæˈlɪr+lɑr/ 'incomes' it is the vowel of the plural suffix which is primarily stressed whereas in [ʔæˈlɪllæɹ] </gæˈlɪr # lɑr/ 'they are coming' it is the vowel of the suffix -ɪr which bears the primary stress.

The difference in the position of the primary stress is in turn grammatically motivated. The word [ʔæˈlɪrræɹ] 'incomes' is a noun with no internal word boundary or unstressable suffix, hence it is stressed on the last syllable by the Azerbaijani MSR. But [ʔæˈlɪllæɹ] 'they are coming', is a sentence containing an internal word boundary between the predicate [ʔæˈlɪr] and the third person plural subject [læɹ]. Unlike

the case in [ʃæˈlɪræːr] 'incomes' which for not having any internal unstressable unit is subject to one application of the MSR, [ʃæˈlɪllæːr] 'they are coming' for containing an internal unstressable unit, i.e., the word boundary, between the predicate [ʃæˈlɪr] and the subject [læːr], is subject to another application of the MSR which places the primary stress on the syllable preceding the unstressable unit of the word boundary and reduces the primary stress on the last syllable to the secondary stress.

The above discussed connection between the kind of assimilation (i.e., whether it will be progressive as in [ʃæˈlɪræːr] 'incomes' or regressive as in [ʃæˈlɪllæːr] 'they are coming') and the stress pattern arising from the grammatical reasons (i.e., the fact that [ʃæˈlɪræːr] 'incomes' is a noun whereas [ʃæˈlɪllæːr] 'they are coming' is a sentence) may be seen more clearly in the following derivations showing the stress assignment and the delateralization assimilation in the words for 'incomes' and 'they are coming.'

|            |                  |                              |
|------------|------------------|------------------------------|
|            | ##ʃæˈlɪr+læːr##  | ##ʃæˈlɪr#læːr##              |
| MSR (1)    | 1                | 1                            |
| (2)        |                  | 1 2                          |
| (Del.to r) | r                | 1                            |
|            | [ʃæˈlɪræːr]      | [ʃæˈlɪllæːr]                 |
|            | 'incomes' (noun) | 'they are coming' (sentence) |

4.5.5. Strident assimilation: a /t/ changes to [s] after another [s] followed by a high vowel followed by a boundary, as in [ɪssɪ]</ɪstɪ/ 'warm', [tüssi]</tüstü/ 'smoke', etc.. The rule of strident assimilation (Strid Ass) is:

$$(\text{Strid Ass}) \quad \begin{bmatrix} +\text{ant} \\ +\text{cor} \\ -\text{vce} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +\text{cnt} \\ +\text{strid} \end{bmatrix} / \begin{bmatrix} +\text{ant} \\ +\text{cor} \\ -\text{vce} \\ +\text{cnt} \\ +\text{strid} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} +\text{syl} \\ +\text{hi} \end{bmatrix} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \# \\ + \end{array} \right\}$$

The restrictions of the high vowel and the boundaries in the environment are necessary to block the application of the rule in words like [isdæ]</istæ/ 'Ask for', [jasdix]</jastig/ 'pillow', [jasdixlar]</jastig+lar/ 'pillows', etc..

The rule of strident assimilation can be seen in the following derivations where only the first two forms illustrate the (Strid Ass):

|                    |                        |         |          |         |           |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------|----------|---------|-----------|
|                    | 'warm'                 | 'flat'  | 'pillow' | 'love'  | 'beloved' |
|                    | /isti/                 | /jastɪ/ | /jastig/ | /istæk/ | /istækli/ |
|                    | [-Vce-Diss][-Vce-Diss] |         |          |         |           |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)      |                        |         |          | k'      | k'        |
| (Spir)(4.4.1)      |                        |         |          | x       | x         |
| (Devoicing)(4.4.2) |                        |         | x        |         |           |
| (Vce-Diss)(4.6.1)  |                        |         | d        | d       | d         |
| (HUF)(3.11.2.1.3)  |                        | i       |          |         |           |
| (Strid Ass)(4.5.5) | s                      | s       |          |         |           |
|                    | [issi]                 | [jassi] | [jasdix] | [isdæx] | [isdæxli] |

However, as the derivations show, if we order voicing dissimilation before (Strid Ass), the environment of this rule can be simplified. I.e., with the condition that it will be ordered after the rule of voicing dissimilation, the (Strid Ass) can be revised into:

$$\begin{bmatrix} +\text{ant} \\ +\text{cor} \\ -\text{vce} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +\text{cnt} \\ +\text{strid} \end{bmatrix} / \begin{bmatrix} +\text{ant} \\ +\text{cor} \\ -\text{vce} \\ +\text{cnt} \\ +\text{strid} \end{bmatrix} - [+syl]$$

In the speech of some speakers the words for 'warm' and 'flat' are respectively [isdi] and [jasdi]. This means that in the speech of those

who say [isdi] and [jasdi] the rule (Vce-Diss) rather than the rule (Strid Ass) operates.

4.5.6. Regressive assimilation: The Tabriz dialect of Azerbaijani has the following rules of regressive assimilation:

4.5.6.1. Nasal assimilation: This is a point of articulation assimilation rule by which the Azerbaijani alveolar nasal /n/ changes to the labial nasal [m] or the velar nasal [ŋ] when it is followed by the labial consonants /b m/ or the velar stop /k g/. The rule of nasal assimilation (Nas Ass) is:

$$(Nas\ Ass)\ [ +nas ] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{c} -cor \\ \alpha ant \\ \beta hi \\ \gamma bk \end{array} \right] / - \left[ \begin{array}{c} -cnt \\ -strid \\ -cor \\ \alpha ant \\ \beta hi \\ \gamma bk \end{array} \right]$$

Note that when followed by fricatives, after, apparently, nasalizing the preceding vowel /n/ may be sometimes deleted, by the following rule of vowel nasalization (V-Nas)<sup>5</sup>:

$$(V-Nas)\ [ +syl ] \left[ \begin{array}{c} +nas \\ +cor \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} +cns \\ +cnt \\ -bk \end{array} \right] \Rightarrow [ +nas ] \quad \emptyset \quad \text{(optional)}$$

1            2            3                            1            2            3

Examples of the application of the (Nas Ass) and (V-Nas) can be seen below (the words for 'ear of grain' and the proper name Ānvar come from the Arabic sunbul and anwar; the words for 'tank' comes from the Russian tank; and the word for 'conference' comes from the French conférence. The word for 'narrow' consists of [æn] 'width' and [siz] 'lack of'; the word for 'unbreakable' consists of [sɪm] 'break' and [maz] (negation suffix.):

|                    |                      |               |           |         |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|
|                    | 'ear of grain'       | 'unbreakable' | 'bonfire' | 'tank'  |
|                    | /sünbül/             | /sɪn+maz/     | /tongal/  | /tang/  |
| (Nas Ass)(4.5.6.1) | m                    | m             | ŋ         | ŋ       |
| (V-Nas)(4.5.6.1)   | [sümbül]             | [sɪmmaz]      | [tongal]  | [taŋg]  |
|                    | 'conference'         | 'Änvar'(name) | 'narrow'  | 'grin'  |
|                    | /konfrans/<br>[-RVS] | /ænvær/       | /æn+siz/  | /gɪnša/ |
| (Nas Ass)(4.5.6.1) | ɱ                    | ɱ             | n         | n       |
| (V-Nas)(4.5.6.1)   | õø                   | æø            | æø        | ĩø      |
|                    | [kõfrans]            | [ævæɾ]        | [æ̃sɪz]   | [gĩša]  |

4.5.6.2. Assimilation to /s/: This rule which changes /t d z l/ to [s] before another /s/, can be written thus:

$$(\text{Ass to s}) \begin{bmatrix} +\text{ant} \\ +\text{cor} \\ \approx \text{son} \\ \approx \text{lat} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -\text{vce} \\ +\text{cnt} \\ +\text{strid} \end{bmatrix} / \_ \begin{bmatrix} +\text{ant} \\ +\text{cor} \\ +\text{cnt} \\ -\text{vce} \\ +\text{strid} \end{bmatrix}$$

The following derivations reflect the application of the (Ass to s) (The suffix /siz/ means 'without'; /sin/ is the second person singular imperative mood suffix; /sa/ is the third person singular condition suffix.):

|            |                   |          |             |            |             |
|------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|------------|-------------|
|            | 'without a horse' | 'iflost' | 'tasteless' | 'saltless' | 'all right' |
|            | /at+siz/          | /it+sa/  | /dad+siz/   | /duz+siz/  | /ol+sin/    |
| (Ass to s) | s                 | s        | s           | s          | s           |
| (SVH)      | ɨ                 | æ̃       | ɨ           | u          | u           |
|            | [assɨz]           | [issæ̃]  | [dassɨz]    | [dussuz]   | [ossun]     |

4.5.6.3. Lateral assimilation: By this rule the /r/ in the syllable with a stressed vowel becomes [l] before the /l/ of the plural

morpheme /lar/, as in [gʷæɭillaɾ]/[gʷæɭillaɾ]</gæɭ+ir+lar/ 'they are coming', [jazɪllar]</jaz+ir+lar/ 'they are writing', etc..

For the reason discussed under the rule of (Del to r) we suggest the following transformational rule for lateral assimilation (LA):

$$(LA) \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{c} +syl \\ +stress \end{array} \right] \\ 1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{c} +son \\ -nas \\ -lat \end{array} \right] \\ 2 \end{array} \quad + \quad \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{c} +son \\ +lat \end{array} \right] \\ 3 \end{array} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{ccc} [ +lat ] \\ 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \end{array}$$

Considering that the direction of assimilation in both (Del to r) and (LA) is determined by the same factor, i.e., the presence of a stressed vowel in the syllable whose liquid assimilates to the liquid across morpheme boundary, it becomes plausible to collapse these rules. But since the segment sequence is not identical in the environment of these rules, collapsing of the two rules does not seem possible, at least with the present notational conventions of generative phonology. Intuitively it would seem that the generative model should be revised to allow for the formalization of this single process.

4.6. Dissimilation: There are two kinds of dissimilation in the Tabriz dialect of Azerbaijani: voicing dissimilation and strident dissimilation.

4.6.1. Voicing dissimilation: In Tabriz speech contiguous medial obstruents differ in voice, the first being voiceless, the second voiced. The reason could be that whereas the first obstruent is followed by another obstruent, the second obstruent is followed by a vowel. Hence, whether both are underlyingly voiceless (e.g., /axtar/ 'search') or voiced (e.g., /dogguz/ 'nine') the medial contiguous obstruents dissimilate in voice by the following rule of voicing dissimilation (Vce-Diss):



$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 (\text{Vce-Diss}) & [+sy1] & \left[ \begin{array}{l} +\text{cns} \\ -\text{son} \end{array} \right] & \left[ \begin{array}{l} +\text{cns} \\ -\text{son} \\ -\text{cnt} \\ -\text{strid} \end{array} \right] & [+sy1] & \Rightarrow & [-\text{vce}] \quad [+v\text{ce}] \\
 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & & 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4
 \end{array}$$

This rule accounts for the following derivations:

|                   |            |            |          |           |          |
|-------------------|------------|------------|----------|-----------|----------|
|                   | 'druggist' | 'notebook' | 'search' | 'eight'   | 'nine'   |
|                   | /ættar/    | /dæftæər/  | /axtar/  | /sækkiz/  | /dogguz/ |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)     |            |            |          | kk        |          |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)    |            |            |          | k̤        |          |
| (Vce-Diss)(4.6.1) | d          | d          | d        | k̤        | k        |
|                   | [ætdar]    | [dæfdæər]  | [axdar]  | [sækk̤iz] | [dɔkɡuz] |

The words for 'druggist' and 'notebook' come from the Arabic ṣaṭṭar and Persian daftar.

4.6.2. Strident dissimilation: /s z ʒ/ become [t d] before /č j/ by the following rule of strident dissimilation (Strid Diss):

$$(\text{Strid Diss}) \quad \left[ \begin{array}{l} -\text{son} \\ +\text{cor} \\ \alpha\text{ant} \\ -\chi\text{hi} \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{l} -\text{cnt} \\ -\text{strid} \\ +\text{ant} \\ -\text{hi} \end{array} \right] / - \left[ \begin{array}{l} +\text{hi} \\ -\text{cnt} \\ +\text{strid} \end{array} \right] \quad (\text{informal})$$

This rule is responsible for the following derivations in Tabriz speech (the /či/ is the profession suffix; /ja/ is (a) quantity marker, (b) adjective suffix):

|                     |          |            |              |
|---------------------|----------|------------|--------------|
|                     | 'worker' | 'a little' | 'In Russian' |
|                     | /iš+či/  | /az+ja/    | /rus+ja/     |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)      | c        | ʒ          | ʒ            |
| (Strid Diss)(4.6.2) | t        | d          | t            |
|                     | [itci]   | [adʒa]     | [rutʒa]      |

These more informal than normal pronunciations alternate with the normal and formal [išci], [azʒa], [rusʒa]. We find these words

pronounced [içʃi], [ačʃa], [ručʃa] in several Azerbaijani dialects including the Baku dialect (Shiräliyev, 1967:116).

4.7. Other rules: The following are a variety of rules which operate in the derivation of the Tabriz pronunciation. While not exhaustive, they seem to constitute the basic rules of Azerbaijani phonology.

4.7.1. Mid vowel change: since in many Azerbaijani dialects including the Tabriz dialect, mid vowels (except the ones phonetically derived (see 2.3.5.2-5)) do not occur in noninitial syllables of morphemes, the unexpected mid vowels are changed by the following rule of mid vowel change (MVC):

$$(MVC) \begin{bmatrix} +sy1 \\ -hi \\ -lo \\ \alpha bk \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \alpha hi \\ -\alpha lo \end{bmatrix} / \# \text{ cvc } -$$

According to this rule the mid vowels /e o/ change to [æ u]. In the following derivations the rule of mid vowel change is reflected. The words for 'tulip' and 'slave' come from the Persian lāle and bande, and the word for 'lemonade' comes from the Russian limonad:

|                    |         |         |            |
|--------------------|---------|---------|------------|
|                    | 'tulip' | 'slave' | 'lemonade' |
|                    | /lāle/  | /bænde/ | /limonad/  |
| (MVC)(4.7.1)       | æ       | æ       | u          |
| (Devoicing)(4.4.2) |         |         | t          |
|                    | [lālæ]  | [bændæ] | [limunat]  |

Note that although [lālæ] and [limunat] in normal Tabriz speech are not fully nativized, in informal style, by undergoing more rules, these words have thoroughly nativized pronunciations, as shown in the following derivations. These examples, too, support our view expressed

in (1.17) and Chapter 5 concerning the relationship between the degree of nativization and the number of the rules involved in derivations.

|                    |         |            |
|--------------------|---------|------------|
|                    | 'tulip' | 'lemonade' |
|                    | /lāle/  | /limonad/  |
| (MVC)(4.7.1)       | æ       | u          |
| (Devoicing)(4.4.2) |         | t          |
| (NFVS)(3.11.3.3)   | a       |            |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)      | a       | u          |
|                    | [lala]  | [lumunat]  |

4.7.2. Vowel deletion: The final vowel of a morpheme is deleted by the following rule of vowel deletion (V-Del):

(V-Del)     [+syl] → ∅ / - # [+syl]

The rule of vowel deletion is reflected in the following derivations:

|         |               |                |
|---------|---------------|----------------|
|         | 'dry wood'    | 'yellow apple' |
|         | /guru # odun/ | /sarɨ # alma/  |
| (V-Del) | ∅             | ∅              |
|         | [gurodun]     | [saralma]      |

4.7.3. There is a tendency, in Azerbaijani, to delete the unstressed word-medial vowel by the following rule of syncope (Sync):

(Sync)      $\begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ -stress \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \emptyset / [+syl][-syl] - [-syl][+syl]$

The rule of syncope is exemplified in the following derivations (in these derivations /da/ is the location marker; /im/ is the first person singular genitive marker; and /i/ is the third person genitive marker):

|                 |           |          |            |             |
|-----------------|-----------|----------|------------|-------------|
|                 | 'where?'  | 'there'  | 'my neck'  | 'his mouth' |
|                 | /hara+da/ | /ora+da/ | /bojun+im/ | /agiz+i/    |
| (HVSS)(3.6.4.1) |           |          |            | g           |
| (Sync)(4.7.3)   | ∅         | ∅        | ∅          | ∅           |
| (SVH)(4.1.1)    |           |          | u          | ɨ           |
| (HU)(3.11.2.2)  |           |          |            | i           |
|                 | [harda]   | [orda]   | [bojnum]   | [agzi]      |

The rule of syncope is also involved in nativization, as we find in the following derivations. The pronunciations [hælmæː], [xædʒæː], [fatma], [sæːlgæː], [æːrzæː] come from the Arabic proper names Halīma, Khadīja, Fāṭima, and the nouns salīga and ṣarīza.

|                  |            |           |           |            |           |
|------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
|                  | /hæːlīmæː/ | /xædīja / | /fātimæː/ | /sæːlīgæː/ | /æːrīzæː/ |
| (NFVS)(3.11.3.3) |            |           | a         |            |           |
| (Sync)(4.3.7)    | ∅          | ∅         | ∅         | ∅          | ∅         |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)   |            | ʒ         |           |            |           |
|                  | [hælmæː]   | [xædʒæː]  | [fatmæː]  | [sæːlga]   | [æːrzæː]  |

The proper names [xædʒæː] and [fatmæː], in informal style have the thoroughly nativized forms [xæːtʒæː] and [fatma]. The following derivations of these forms, too, show the relationship between the degree of nativization and the number of the rules involved in the derivations.

|                   |               |               |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                   | (proper name) | (proper name) |
|                   | /xædījæː/     | /fātimæː/     |
| (NFVS)(3.11.3.3)  |               | a             |
| (Sync)(4.7.3)     | ∅             | ∅             |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)    | ʒ             |               |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)     |               | a             |
| (Vce-Diss)(4.6.1) | t             |               |
|                   | [xæːtʒæː]     | [fatma]       |

Since the effect of (Sync) is the creation of medial clusters one cannot help noticing a similar effect as in the output of (i-addition) e.g., in [isport] </sport/ 'sport', [isdifʌn] </stakan/ 'tumbler', etc.

4.7.4. Glottal weakening: In Azerbaijani, the glottal segments /ʔ h/ tend to weaken on a scale from the stop to the fricative and from the fricative to the zero, by the following rule. The context free rule of glottal weakening (Glt Wk) is (except for [fæhlæ] Arabic faqla 'laborer' which is used in all three styles of pronunciation, the output of (Glt Wk) represents the informal pronunciation. For a scale of consonant strength see Hooper, 1973, esp. p. 125):

(Glt Wk)  $\left[ \begin{array}{c} +cns \\ +l0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow [-1 \text{ degree of constriction}]$

Condition: (A) in /-c this rule applies only once.

(B) This rule applies to the preconsonantal /h/ optionally to give informal pronunciation.

The argument for the context free status of this rule is based on the following derivations. All the words are Arabic loans. Mashad is the capital of Khorāsān (the northeastern province of Persia).

/mæshæd//tæ lʔæ t//sæʔæ t//ʃæ mʔ//sæ hæ r//fæ ʔ læ /

(NFVS)(3.11.3.3)

a

(Glt Wk)(1)            ø            h            h            h            ø            h

(2)                            ø            ø            ø

(Devoicing)(4.4.2)            t

(NRVH)(4.1.2)

a

[mæ ʃæ t][tæ læ t] [saat] [ʃæ m] [sæ æ r][fæ hlæ]

As these derivations indicate, (Glt Wk) can weaken the glottal stop to the glottal fricative, and the glottal fricative to zero in all

positions except before a consonant. In this position, a second application of the (Glt Wk) will result in pronunciations like\*[fæːlæː] which does not seem to be a word in Azerbaijani. In addition to [fæːhlæː] which belongs to all three styles of speech, there are informal pronunciations with a weakened glottal stop as the following derivations show (The loans are from the Arabic ʔiʕtimād 'trust', ʔiʕtinā 'concern', ʔiʕtigād 'opinion', muʕtadil 'temperate'.):

|                    | 'trust'   | 'concern' | 'opinion' | 'temperate' |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
|                    | /eʔtimād/ | /eʔtinā/  | /eʔtigād/ | /möʔtæːdil/ |
| (Glt Wk)(4.7.4)    | h         | h         | h         | h           |
| (FVS)(3.11.3.4)    | a         | a         | a         |             |
| (Vce-Diss)(4.6.1)  | d         | d         | d         | d           |
| (Devoicing)(4.4.2) | t         |           | t         |             |
|                    | [ehdimat] | [ehdina]  | [ehdigat] | [möhdaːdil] |

4.7.5. Glide insertion in nativization: Following the rule of (Glt Wk)(4.7.4), which creates a vowel sequence in the intermediate stage, the already discussed rule of (Glide-ins)(3.11.2.2.5) inserts a glide agreeing in roundness with the first vowel of the sequence.

The following derivations illustrate the role of the rule of glide insertion in nativization. All the loans come from Arabic:

|                         | 'pretence'    | 'prayer'   | 'rule'           |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------|------------------|
|                         | /riʔā/        | /duʔā/     | /gāʔidæ/         |
| (FVS)(4.7.11)           | a             | a          |                  |
| (NFVS)(3.11.3.3)        |               |            | a                |
| (Glt Wk)(4.7.4)(1)      | h             | h          | h                |
| (2)                     | ∅             | ∅          | ∅                |
| (Glide-ins)(3.11.2.2.5) | y             | w          | y                |
| (Sync)(4.7.3)           |               |            | ∅                |
| <br>(NRVH)(4.1.2)       |               |            | a                |
|                         | [riya]        | [duwa]     | [gayda]          |
|                         | (proper name) | 'question' | 'representative' |
|                         | /sæʔīd/       | /suʔāl/    | /nāʔib/          |
| (FVS)(4.7.11)           | i             | a          |                  |
| (NFVS)(3.11.3.3)        |               |            | a                |
| (Glt Wk)(4.7.4.)(1)     | h             | h          | h                |
| (2)                     | ∅             | ∅          | ∅                |
| (Glide-ins)(3.11.2.2.5) | y             | w          | y                |
| (Sync)(4.7.3)           |               |            |                  |
| (Devoicing)(4.4.2)      | t             |            | p                |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)           |               |            | ɨ                |
|                         | [sæyit]       | [suwal]    | [nayɨp]          |

4.7.6. *i*-epenthesis: This is a nativization rule which inserts an [i] into the initial and final consonant clusters to prevent their occurrence at the phonetic level. The rule of *i*-epenthesis (*i*-ep) is:

$$(i\text{-ep}) \quad \emptyset \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +\text{sy1} \\ +\text{hi} \\ -\text{bk} \end{bmatrix} / \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \# \text{ c - c} \\ \text{c - c} \# \end{array} \right\}$$

The rule of i-epenthesis is reflected in the following derivations, where the word for 'thought' is an Arabic loan and the words for 'club', 'motion picture' and 'meter' are apparently from French:

|                    | 'thought' | 'club'  | 'motion picture' | 'meter' |
|--------------------|-----------|---------|------------------|---------|
|                    | /fikr/    | /glub/  | /film/           | /metr/  |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)      | k         |         |                  |         |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)     | ʔ         |         |                  |         |
| (i-ep)(4.7.6)      | i         | i       | i                | i       |
| (Devoicing)(4.4.2) |           | p       |                  |         |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)      |           | u       |                  |         |
|                    | [fiʔir]   | [gulup] | [film]           | [metir] |

In urban Tabriz pronunciation final clusters in some words are tolerated, as in [metr] 'meter', [fiʔir]~[fiʔr] 'thought', [film] 'film', etc.. These pronunciations in contrast with the more nativized pronunciations [metir], [fiʔir], and [film], prove a point concerning the relationship between the degree of nativization and the number of the rules involved in the derivation. See (1.17) and Chapter 5 for further discussion.

4.7.7. i-addition: Loans with initial clusters beginning with a strident fricative are nativized in Azerbaijani dialects by the addition of an [i] by the following rule of i-addition (i-ad):

$$(i-ad) \quad \emptyset \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +syl \\ +hi \\ -bk \\ -rnd \end{bmatrix} / \# - \begin{bmatrix} +cnt \\ +strid \end{bmatrix} [-syl]$$

This rule accounts for the nativized loans such as the following. The word for 'wardrobe' comes from the Russian škaf:



|        |          |            |
|--------|----------|------------|
|        | 'sport'  | 'wardrobe' |
|        | /sport/  | /ʃgaf/     |
| (i-ad) | i        | i          |
|        | [isport] | [iʃgaf]    |

In many Azerbaijani dialects [i] is added also by the following rule of i-addition before [r] (i-ad [r]):

$$(i\text{-ad } [r]) \quad \emptyset \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{l} +\text{syl} \\ +\text{hi} \\ -\text{bk} \end{array} \right] / - \left[ \begin{array}{l} -\text{syl} \\ +\text{son} \\ -\text{nas} \\ -\text{lat} \end{array} \right]$$

This rule is reflected in the following derivations where the loans come from Arabic, and are current in Baku, Mughan, Julfa and other dialects.

|        |           |               |                   |               |
|--------|-----------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
|        | (a herb)  | (proper name) | 'satisfied'       | (proper name) |
|        | /rejhān/  | /rizā/        | /rāzī/<br>[-NFVS] | /ræhīm/       |
| (FVS)  | a         | a             | i                 | i             |
| (i-ad) | i         | i             | i                 | i             |
| (sync) |           | ∅             |                   |               |
|        | [irejhan] | [irza]        | [irāzi]           | [iræhim]      |

The pronunciation [iʃæmbæ] </ʃænbə/ < Persian šænbə 'Saturday' in many Azerbaijani dialects including Tabriz speech reflects a similar i-addition process which does not seem to be synchronically productive. However, the pronunciations [iradijɔl]~[iradijo] 'radio' in the Norashen dialect and [irezin] in the Mughan, Norashen, Nakhchivan dialects seem to indicate that (i-ad [r]) is a productive rule in some dialects of Azerbaijani. (See Shirāliyev, 1967:67-9).

4.7.8. j-rounding: [j] derived from [ǰ] is rounded and converted into a glide after front round vowels if it is in syllable-final or a

word-final position. This rule can be formulated:

$$(j\text{-rnd}) \begin{bmatrix} +\text{cns} \\ +\text{hi} \\ -\text{bk} \\ +\text{cnt} \\ +\text{vce} \\ -\text{strid} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -\text{cns} \\ +\text{rnd} \end{bmatrix} / \begin{bmatrix} +\text{syl} \\ -\text{bk} \\ +\text{rnd} \end{bmatrix} - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \$ \\ \# \end{array} \right\}$$

The rule of j-rounding is reflected in the following derivation:

|                |             |             |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|
|                | 'sky, blue' | 'pigeon'    |
|                | /gög/       | /gögærcin/  |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)  | ġ ġ       | ġ ġ       |
| (Spir)(4.4.1)  | j           | j           |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12) | ǰ̇          | ǰ̇ c        |
| (j-rnd)(4.7.8) | w̃          | w̃          |
|                | [ǰ̇ōw̃]     | [ǰ̇ōwærcin] |

4.7.9. n-epenthesis and voicing by [n]: in informal style, in a number of loan morphemes ending in the voiceless dental or palatal stop or affricate, between this segment and the preceding vowel an [n] is inserted as a result of which the final voiceless stop or affricate is voiced. This process of [n] insertion and the subsequent segment voicing (n-ep & v), may thus be formulated:

$$\begin{array}{cccccccc}
 [+syl] & \begin{bmatrix} -\text{cnt} \\ -\text{vce} \\ \alpha\text{ant} \\ \alpha\text{cor} \\ -\alpha\text{hi} \end{bmatrix} & (\#) & [+syl] & \Rightarrow & \begin{bmatrix} +\text{nas} \\ +\text{cor} \end{bmatrix} & [+vce] & \\
 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4
 \end{array}$$

The application of this rule is reflected in the following derivations. (The words for 'limestone', 'smart', 'carnation' and 'screw' come from the Persian āhāk, zīrāk, mīxāk, and pīč; the word for comfortable comes from the Arabic rāḥat; the word for 'stove' comes from the Russian peč.):

'Buy 'Be 'I am 'smell of 'to the  
 limestone!' smart!' comfortable' carnation' stove'  
 /āhæk#al/ /zīræk#ol//rāhæ#t+am/ /mīxæ:k#ig+i//pic+a/

|                   |   |    |   |    |   |    |    |    |
|-------------------|---|----|---|----|---|----|----|----|
| (RVS)(3.2.11)     |   | ḳ |   | ḳ |   | ḳ | g̣ |    |
| (n-ep & v)(4.7.9) |   | ng |   | ng |   | nd | ng | nʃ |
| (HVSS)(3.6.4.1)   |   |    |   |    |   |    | j  |    |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)    |   | ʃ  |   | ʃ  |   |    |    | ʃ  |
| (NFVS)(3.11.3.3)  | a |    | i |    | a |    |    | æ  |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)     | a |    |   |    | a |    |    | æ  |

[ahæŋal] [zīræŋol] [rahædam] [mīxæ:nʃiji] [pinʒæ]

4.7.10. j-deletion: in informal and normal styles, in a number of loanwords the segment /j/ is deleted by the following rule:

$$(j\text{-Del}) \left[ \begin{array}{l} +\text{cns} \\ +\text{hi} \\ -\text{bk} \\ +\text{cnt} \\ +\text{vce} \\ -\text{strid} \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \emptyset / - [-\text{sy}] \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [-\text{sy}] \\ \# \end{array} \right\}$$

This rule accounts for the deletion of the /j/ in the following derivations (all the examples were borrowed from Arabic):

|         |                       |                  |         |
|---------|-----------------------|------------------|---------|
|         | 'religious<br>leader' | (proper<br>name) | 'flood' |
|         | /ʃejx/                | /hüsejn/         | /sejl/  |
| (j-Del) | ∅                     | ∅                | ∅       |
|         | [ʃex]                 | [hüsen]          | [sel]   |

As it can be seen, this is a rule of cluster simplification with a function similar to that of (Son Del). But final clusters consisting of a /j/ and a consonant are also simplified by (i-ep), e.g., [hejif]</p>
</div>
<div data-bbox="66 831 860 913" data-label="Text">
<p>However, considering that the segment deleted by both (Son Del) and (j-Del) is a voiced nonstrident nonback consonant, we may collapse the two rules into the rule of the voiced consonant deletion (VcnsDel).</p>
</div>

$$(VcnsDel) \begin{bmatrix} +cns \\ +yce \\ -strid \\ -bk \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \emptyset / - \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \begin{bmatrix} +cns \\ -bk \\ -lo \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} +bk \\ +cnt \\ -yce \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \right\} \left[ \begin{array}{l} [-syl] \\ \# \end{array} \right]$$

This rule can account for the deletion of both the preconsonantal sonorants and the /j/.

4.7.11. Final /s/ voicing: In Tabriz speech, there seems to be a rule by which the final /s/ of some polysyllabic loanwords is voiced. (See also the last paragraph of note 19, Chapter 2.) The rule of final /s/ voicing can be formulated as:

$$(FSV) \begin{bmatrix} +ant \\ +cor \\ +cnt \\ +strid \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [+vce] / vcv - \#$$

As the rule shows, it applies only to polysyllabic words. This is deducible from the fact that monosyllabic loans like [fars]~[fas]</fars/< Persian fars 'Persian', [tas]</tas/< Arabic ṭās 'basin', [ʃans]</ʃans/< French chance 'luck', [dærs]~[dærs]</dærs/< Arabic dars 'lesson', [æxs] 'photograph'</æks/< Arabic ʕaks 'reflex', etc. do not undergo this rule. Interestingly, the word for 'photograph' has the bisyllabic alternant [æβiz] with voiced final /s/ in Rizaiyya speech.

The following derivations reflect the (FSV) (the words for Aras, 'rooster' and 'rug' are apparently Persian loans, and the words for 'silk satin', 'photograph' and 'diamond' are Arabic loans):

|               |                  |           |              |
|---------------|------------------|-----------|--------------|
|               | 'The Aras River' | 'rooster' | 'silk satin' |
|               | /aras/           | /xorus/   | /ætlæ:s/     |
| (FVS)(4.7.11) | z                | z         | z            |
|               | [araz]           | [xoruz]   | [ætlæz]      |

|                 |          |            |            |
|-----------------|----------|------------|------------|
|                 | 'rug'    | 'photo'    | 'diamond'  |
|                 | /pæ:lās/ | /æks/      | /ælmās/    |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)   |          | k          |            |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)  |          | ʃ          |            |
| (i-ep)(4.7.6)   |          | i          |            |
| (FVS)(3.11.3.4) | a        |            | a          |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)   | a        |            | a          |
| (FSV)(4.7.11)   | z        | z          | z          |
|                 | [palaz]  | [æʃiz]     | [almaz]    |
|                 |          | (Rizaiyya) | (literary) |

The (FSV), however, is not an exceptionless rule, as it can be gathered from the pronunciations [in<sup>ʃ</sup>ɪlɪs] England, [tɪflɪs] (capital of Soviet Georgia), [ælməs] </ælmās/ <Arabic almās 'diamond', etc..

4.7.12. Voicing of the /f/: Azerbaijani seems to have a rule of nativization by which an /f/ followed by a voiceless fricative is voiced. The rule of (/f/ voicing) is:

$$(/f/-voicing) \begin{bmatrix} +ant \\ -cor \\ +cnt \\ +strid \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow [+vce] / - \begin{bmatrix} -son \\ +cor \\ +cnt \\ -vce \end{bmatrix}$$

This rule is reflected in the following derivations of the nativized forms of the Persian words for 'charm' and 'violet':

|                       | 'charm' | 'violet'    |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------|
|                       | /æfsūn/ | /bæ næ fʃe/ |
| (MVC)(4.7.1)          |         | æ           |
| (FVS)(3.11.3.4)       | u       |             |
| (/f/ voicing)(4.7.12) | v       | v           |
| (Diph)(2.6.5.2)       | öw      | öw          |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)         | ow      |             |
|                       | [owsun] | [bæ nōwʃæ]  |

This rule of nativization does not apply to some words like [æfsæ:r] </æfsæ:r/> Persian āfsār 'army officer', [æfsānæ] </æfsāne/> Persian āfsāne 'myth', [næfs] </næfs/> Arabic nafs 'self', etc..

4.7.13. Suppletion: A number of function morphemes such as the bound morphemes /ila/ 'with', /kimi/ 'like', /ʃa/ 'as much as', in normal and informal styles, have underlying representations like /inan/, /kimin/, /ʃan/ by suppletion.

4.8. Order: The answer to the question whether the phonological rules in this study are sequentially or simultaneously ordered<sup>6</sup> may have become clear by now. Rules apply to the underlying forms when they provide the required structural description. If the underlying representation provides the necessary structural description for more than one rule, they apply simultaneously. When, however, a rule can apply only to the output of another rule the application of these rules will be sequential. E.g., in the derivation of [βæ rōwüz], the underlying representation /kæ ræ fs/ 'celery' < Persian kārāfs, has the required structural description for the simultaneous application of the rules

of the realization of the velar stops (RVS)(3.2.11) and (/f/-voicing)(4.7.2), but the rule of diphthongization (Diph)(2.6.5.2), that in the case of [ʃæ rövüz] derives the diphthong [öw] from the segment sequence [æv], must follow the (/f/-voicing). Similarly, whereas the Tabriz context free rule (TCFR)(3.2.12) that applies to the output of (RVS)(3.2.11), i-epenthesis (i-ep)(4.7.6), and final /s/ voicing (FSV)(4.7.11) can apply simultaneously, the rounding of the epenthetic [i] by the nativization rule of root vowel harmony (NRVH)(4.1.2) must follow (i-ep)(4.7.11), thus:

|        |   |   |        |               |        |       |
|--------|---|---|--------|---------------|--------|-------|
| /k     | æ | r | æ      | f             |        | s/    |
| (RVS)  |   |   |        | (/f/-voicing) |        |       |
| ḳ     |   |   |        | v             |        |       |
| (TCFR) |   |   | (Diph) |               | (i-ep) | (FSV) |
| ʃ̣     |   |   | ö      | ẉ            | i      | z     |
|        |   |   |        |               | (NRVH) |       |
|        |   |   |        |               | ü      |       |

Another example: [öŋæ nʒæx̣] < /ograenʒæk/ 'experiment'

|    |                   |        |   |   |        |   |        |
|----|-------------------|--------|---|---|--------|---|--------|
| /ö | g                 | r      | æ | n | ʒ      | æ | k/     |
|    | (RVS)(metathesis) |        |   |   | (TCFR) |   | (RVS)  |
|    | g̣                |        |   |   | ʒ̣     |   | ḳ     |
|    | r                 | g̣     |   |   |        |   | (HVSS) |
|    |                   | (TCFR) |   |   |        |   | x̣     |
|    |                   | ʃ̣     |   |   |        |   |        |

Finally, [~~g~~owærcin] < /gögærčín/ 'pigeon':

|        |   |         |   |   |        |   |    |
|--------|---|---------|---|---|--------|---|----|
| /g     | ö | g       | æ | r | č      | i | n/ |
| (RVS)  |   | (RVS)   |   |   | (TCFR) |   |    |
|        |   | g´      |   |   | c      |   |    |
| (TCFR) |   | (HVSS)  |   |   |        |   |    |
|        |   | j       |   |   |        |   |    |
|        |   | (j-rnd) |   |   |        |   |    |
|        |   | w       |   |   |        |   |    |

It must be added, however, that some rules need to be extrinsically ordered. E.g., in the derivation of the word for 'factory' the rules (RVS)(3.2.11), (P-Ass)(4.1.3), (TCFR)(3.2.12) must have this order, and the rules (MVC) and (NRVH) must be in this order. The fact that (RVS) precedes (TCFR) is clear as it has already been mentioned (see 4.8). But if after (RVS), instead of (P-Ass), the rule (TCFR) applies, the resultant [~~g~~] will not be the segment which according to (P-Ass) should motivate vowel fronting. In the case of the order of (MVC)(4.7.1), (NRVH)(4.1.2) as such, too, it can be observed that (NRVH) cannot apply before (MVC) because /e/ does not have a back counterpart in Azerbaijani vowel system. Hence, first (MVC) lowers it to [æ] and then (NRVH) backs it to [a].

|    |        |              |   |   |   |        |   |        |
|----|--------|--------------|---|---|---|--------|---|--------|
|    | /k     | ā            | r | # | x | ā      | n | e/     |
| 1) | (RVS)  | (NFVS)       |   |   |   | (NFVS) |   | (MVC)  |
|    |        | k´           | a |   |   | a      |   | æ      |
| 2) |        | (P-Ass)      |   |   |   |        |   | (NRVH) |
|    |        | æ            |   |   |   |        |   | a      |
| 3) | (TCFR) |              |   |   |   |        |   |        |
|    |        | <del>g</del> |   |   |   |        |   |        |



## Notes

<sup>1</sup>As already mentioned (Chapter 3, note 8), we have not employed the theory of markedness. This, however, does not oblige us to disregard the support markedness can lend to our description.

<sup>2</sup>The label 'presumptive past' is adopted from Kazmaoğlu (1974:40-1).

<sup>3</sup>The rule of Devoicing in its general form, i.e., as:

$c \rightarrow [-vce]/cvcv - \left\{ \begin{matrix} c \\ \# \end{matrix} \right\}$  seems to be applicable with respect to [g'] in

Goychay dialect, and to /g/ in the affected literary pronunciation, as in the following derivations:

|                     |           |                  |       |
|---------------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
|                     | 'pretty'  | 'while counting' | 'no'  |
|                     | /gæʒæŋg/  | /saj+ar+ag/      | /jog/ |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)       | [-RVS] g' |                  |       |
| (Son De1)(4.3.1)    | ø         |                  |       |
| (General Devoicing) | k'        | k                | k     |
|                     | [gæʒæ k'] | [sajarak]        | [jok] |

The pronunciation [gæʒæ k'] is taken from Shiräliyev (1967:377), and [sajarak] and [jok] from the declamation of a recent sonnet called 'Behjät abad Khätiräsi' by the Poet of Heydär Babaya Salam.

<sup>4</sup>E.g., the word for 'milk' is süd in Kitab-i Dadam Gorgud. . . p. 29 Dresden copy in Ergin 1963. In an earlier record (Kashghari, I, 157-7) this word is süt which Emre (1949:61) interprets as [süt] (for the significance of this interpretation see Chapter 3, note 16). To see the point we need to consider the following:

1) In Tabriz and the literary dialect we have monosyllabic words with final voiced stops, e.g., [ad] 'name', [gab] 'dish'. These words contrast against [at] 'horse' and [gap] 'snatch'.

2) On the other hand, the words for 'milk' and 'fire' differ with respect to the final stop in Tabriz from the literary dialect. In Tabriz we have [süt] 'milk' and [ot] 'fire' whereas in the literary dialect we have [süd] and [od].

3) We have not found any reason for positing /süt/ and /ot/ for Tabriz and /süd/ and /od/ for the literary dialect.

4) In pre-11th century documents these words are süt and ot.

5) Hence, the Tabriz [süt], [ot] and the literary [süd], [od] have a common underlying form.

6) Even the orthography of the later works such as the Book of Dādā Gorgud seems to indicate that the underlying forms for the words 'milk' and 'fire' in earlier times must have been /süd/ and /od/.

7) With regard to all these points it is puzzling that Tabriz has [süt] and [ot] whereas the literary dialect has [süd] and [od].

8) Hence, this is a case of unpredictable devoicing in Tabriz.

9) Since the early (e.g., 11th century) forms were süt and öt, we might think that Tabriz has shortened the long vowel and inherited the voiceless stops in these words. But this is not plausible. Could it be that the following operations which give [ad], [gab] in Tabriz and the literary dialect, and [süd], [od] in the literary dialect has been avoided by Tabriz?

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} c \rightarrow [+vce]/ \bar{v} - \\ \bar{v} \rightarrow v / - [+vce] \end{array} \right)$$

<sup>5</sup>This is the same process as the process of vowel nasalization in Portugese discussed by Saciuk (1970:198).

<sup>6</sup>For a discussion of the sequential and simultaneous ordering of phonological rules see Koutsoudas et al. 1974, and King 1973.

## CHAPTER V

### NATIVIZATION IN AZERBAIJANI

5.1. We conceive of nativization<sup>1</sup> as the linguistically significant change which allows a morpheme or word from one language to be inconspicuously used in a speech style of another language. The key point is the inconspicuous occurrence of the loanword in a speech style of the borrowing language. Since styles of pronunciation differ according to their distance from the underlying representations (the formal style with a minimum and the informal style, almost always, with a maximum distance from the underlying representation (see 1.17-18)), and since, as we see it, nativization is the inconspicuous occurrence of a form from one language in a speech style of another language, in other words, since loanwords can inconspicuously appear in different speech styles of the borrowing language, the change which causes nativization may range between a minimum (the substitution of a foreign segment with its closest approximation available in the native inventory of the underlying segments) and a maximum (with several rules applicable in its derivation).

Thus, when a loanword is inconspicuously used in a speech style of another language it is nativized (regardless of the style in which it appears). Note that at this point only the general concept of nativization is at issue. Once a word is nativized (by being inconspicuously employed in a speech style of a borrowing language), then

its degree of nativization can be considered, because in harmony with the speech style in which it occurs, the nativized loanword may be minimally or maximally distant from its underlying representation in the borrowing language.

To illustrate the above points we may consider the word for 'orchestra' which is [orʃestr] in the formal style of Tabriz speech. In the derivation of this pronunciation the native /k/ > [k'] > [ʃ] apart, the only significant change is the substitution of the rolled French [R] with the positional variants of the Azerbaijani underlying /r/. Note that in this pronunciation the normally unpermitted noninitial-syllable mid vowel and the three-consonant final cluster remain intact.

In contrast to the formal pronunciation [orʃestr], consider the informal pronunciation [örʃæz] whose derivation from the French word orchestre 'orchestra' reflects the application of not only the rules employed in the derivation of the formal [orʃestr], but also the application of the rules of mid vowel change (4.7.1), nativization root vowel harmony (4.1.2), final cluster simplification (which going far beyond our rule of stop deletion (4.3.2.1) has deleted two consonants (i.e., /tr/) at one stroke), and the voicing of final /s/ (4.7.11). Note that the rules of mid vowel change and final [s] voicing belong to the category of the rules of nativization. These rules differ from the common rules of Azerbaijani phonology in that whereas the former apply only to loans, the latter apply to all the morphemes with a structural description for them. In the derivations of the pronunciations for the word for 'orchestra', below, all the three kinds of the rules in Azerbaijani phonology (i.e., the rules of substitution, the specific rules of nativization and the general rules) are represented:

|                              |                       |                      |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
|                              | /orkestr/             | /orkestr/            |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)                | k'                    | k'                   |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)               | ʃ                     | ʃ                    |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)                |                       | ö                    |
| (MVC)(4.7.1)                 |                       | æ                    |
| final cluster simplification |                       | ðð                   |
| (FSV)(4.7.11)                |                       | z                    |
|                              | [orʃestr]<br>(formal) | [öræz]<br>(informal) |

For some speakers the normal pronunciation of the word for 'orchestra' is identical with the formal [orʃestr]. For other speakers it may be [orʃes]~[örʃes] or [orʃestir]~[örʃestir], by the following derivations. There must be finer stylistic or idiolectal reasons for the nonapplication of some of the rules.

|                              |           |            |           |            |
|------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
|                              | /orkestr/ | /orkestr/  | /orkestr/ | /orkestr/  |
| (RVS)(3.2.11)                | k'        | k'         | k'        | k'         |
| (TCFR)(3.2.12)               | ʃ         | ʃ          | ʃ         | ʃ          |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)                | ö         | ö          |           |            |
| final cluster simplification |           | ðð         |           | ðð         |
| (i-ep)(4.7.6)                |           |            | i         | i          |
|                              | [örʃes]   | [örʃestir] | [orʃes]   | [orʃestir] |

5.2. The rules of substitution in comparison with the general rules of Azerbaijani phonology and the nativization rules have a noteworthy characteristic. Whereas the other two kinds of rules apply to specific segments present in their underlying representation in Azerbaijani, the rules of substitution apply to foreign segments to make them acceptable in the underlying representation. Thus, these rules 'interpret' or 'transphonate' the foreign segment into the nearest segment in the

inventory of underlying segments in Azerbaijani. An example of the rules of substitution is the already mentioned (5.1) rule that substitutes the French uvular trill [R] with the phonetic variants of Azerbaijani /r/.

Some of the rules of substitution have already been introduced (see 3.4.3, 3.4.7-2, 3.4.8), and the following are the remaining most important ones known to us at this time:

5.3. The Arabic short /i/ and /u/ are similar to the Azerbaijani /i/ and /u/, but the Arabic short /á/ is realized as the Azerbaijani /æ/, e.g., [ism] < /ism/ < Arabic ʔism 'name', [xums] < /xums/ < Arabic khums 'one-fifth', but [gæɫæm] < /gæɫæm/ < Arabic qalām 'pen'. The correspondence between the Arabic and Azerbaijani /i u/ can also be seen in that, when shortened by the relevant rules (see 3.11.3.3 - 3.11.3.4), the long Arabic [ī ū] correspond to the Azerbaijani /i u/, but the shortened Arabic [á] rather than corresponding to the Azerbaijani /æ/ (as the short Arabic /á/ does), corresponds to Azerbaijani /a/, e.g., [musa] < /mūsā/ < Arabic mūsā 'Moses', [isa] < /īsā/ < Arabic ʕīsā 'Jesus', [kæmāl] < /kæmāl/ < Arabic kamāl 'perfection'. The existence of the prelexical rules that convert the Arabic /á/ and [á] to Azerbaijani /æ/ and /ā/ does not mean that the underlying vowels in words like /mūsā/, /īsā/ are shortened prelexically. Rather, it means that the Azerbaijani underlying /mūsā/, /īsā/ etc. are derived from the Arabic mūsā, ʕīsā etc. We have vowel shortening rules to shorten the vowels in the Azerbaijani /mūsā/, /īsā/ etc..

The difference between the Arabic /á/ and the Azerbaijani /a/ arises from the fact that whereas the Arabic vowel system has two degrees of aperture (Cantineau, 1960:90), the Azerbaijani vowel system has three degrees of aperture. Consequently, whereas the /i u/ of the Arabic and

Azerbaijani systems correspond in height, the Arabic /ā/ does not correspond to the Azerbaijani /a/.

5.4. The French nasal vowels are substituted with their corresponding vowel and nasal sequences, e.g., [kuran] French [kurā] courant 'current, draught'.

5.5. The French uvular trill /R/ is substituted by the Azerbaijani /r/.

5.6. The unstressed final [a] of Russian loans is prelexically deleted, e.g., [gazet] < /gazet/ < Russian gazéta 'newspaper'.

5.7. In addition to /g/ < Arabic voiceless uvular stop /q/ (i.e., ق) (see 3.4.7) and /ʔ/ < Arabic voiced pharyngeal fricative /ʕ/ (i.e., ع) (see 3.4.8), we find the following rules of consonant substitution changing the Arabic consonants to their Azerbaijani corresponding segments:

5.8. The Arabic emphatic (i.e., velarized) voiceless dental stop and alveolar fricative segments /t̤ s̤/ (i.e., ص ط) become the Azerbaijani voiceless dental stop and alveolar fricative /t s/.

5.9. The Arabic emphatic (i.e., velarized) voiced dental stop and fricative segments /d̤ dh̤/ (i.e., ظ ض) and the voiced interdental fricative /ð/ (i.e., ذ) becomes the Azerbaijani /z/.

5.10. The Arabic voiceless interdental /θ/ (i.e., ث) becomes the Azerbaijani /s/.

5.11. The Arabic voiceless pharyngeal fricative /ħ/ (i.e., ح) becomes the Azerbaijani voiceless glottal fricative /h/.

5.12. The Arabic round glide /w/ (i.e., و) becomes the Azerbaijani /v/.

5.13. The voiceless velar stop in earlier loans, mostly from

Russian, is realized as the voiced velar stop, e.g. [gurušga] </grusga/> Russian kružka 'mug', [gænow] </ganav/> Russian kanava 'ditch, gutter'. Since in such words the [g] apparently does not alternate with [k], i.e., since in all styles the words for 'mug' and 'ditch' are pronounced [gurušga] and [gænow] ([ganov] in Northern literary dialect), it can be assumed that the voiceless velar stop of the Russian kružka and kanava has been restructured into the Azerbaijani voiced velar stop. This means that regardless of the voiceless velar stop in such words in the source language, their underlying representations in Azerbaijani will have the voiced velar stop. While this is true for many words, for a smaller number of loans like the informal [g(ɨ)las] and normal and formal [k(ɨ)las] <French classe 'classroom', depending on the speaker there will be two underlying forms /glas/ and /klas/. The latter, more properly will be /klas/.

[-RVS]

The list of the rules of substitution is, apparently, an accumulating one because upon borrowing a morpheme with a segment for which Azerbaijani may not have a counterpart in the inventory of the underlying segments there will be rules to substitute the unfamiliar segment with an approximation available in the inventory of the underlying segments.

5.14. To return to the styles of pronunciation, although we have spoken of three styles (formal, normal, informal), within the scope of the three styles known to us, there must be substyles with finer distinctions which careful study can specify.

It is noteworthy that the degree of the nativization of a loanword and its assignment to a speech style is in almost direct relationship with the number of the rules involved in its derivation. This is evident from the derivation of the different pronunciations of the word for



'orchestra'. The pronunciation belonging to the formal style has been derived by three rules (i.e., the prelexical substitution rule that replaces the French uvular trill [R] with the phonetic variants of the Azerbaijani /r/, the rule of the realization of the velar stop (3.2.11) which specifies the backness of the underlying /k/, and the Tabriz context free rule (3.2.12) which changes the voiceless palatal stop resulting from the (RVS) to the voiceless alveopalatal retroflex affricate; the normal style has been derived by four or five rules (i.e., in addition to the rules involved in the derivation of the formal style, the rule of vowel harmony has fronted the back mid round /o/ to [ö], and a rule of cluster simplification has simplified the final consonant cluster either by deletion or by i-epenthesis); the informal style has been derived by seven rules (i.e., in addition to the three rules involved in the derivation of the formal style, and the rules of vowel harmony and cluster simplification involved in the derivation of the normal style, also the rule of mid vowel change has lowered the /e/ to [æ], and the rule of final /s/ voicing has voiced to [z] the final /s/ resulting from the cluster simplification).

5.15. Another example which shows an almost direct relationship between the degree of nativization and the number of the rules involved in the derivation can be seen in the three different pronunciations of the word for 'hour, timepiece' in the following derivations:

|                    | /sāʔæ t/             | /sāʔæ t/           | /sāʔæ t/              |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| (NFVS)(3.11.3.3)   | —                    | a                  | a                     |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)      | —                    | a                  | a                     |
| (Glt wk)(4.7.4)(1) | —                    | h                  | h                     |
| (2)                | —                    | ∅                  | —                     |
|                    | [sāʔæ t]<br>(formal) | [saat]<br>(normal) | [sahat]<br>(informal) |

As it can be seen in the above derivations of the Azerbaijani pronunciations of the word for 'hour, timepiece' <Arabic sāḥat, there is almost a direct relationship between the degree of nativization and the number of the rules involved. From among the three nativized pronunciations of this word the formal has been derived only by three rules belonging to the category of the prelexical substitution rules that substitute the Azerbaijani /a ʔ æ/ for the Arabic /ā ʔ ā/; the normal pronunciation has been derived by seven rules (i.e., in addition to the three substitution rules involved in the derivation of the formal pronunciation, the rule of vowel shortening has shortened the /ā/ to [a], the rule of root vowel harmony has changed the low front /æ/ to the low back [a], and the rule of glottal weakening in second application has deleted the weakened glottal segment); and the informal pronunciation has been derived by six rules (i.e., by the three prelexical substitution rules, the rule of vowel shortening, the rule of root vowel harmony, and one application of the rule of glottal weakening).

5.16. The final example illustrating the relationship between the degree of nativization (reflected in the style of pronunciation) and the number of the rules involved in the derivations, from among many interesting examples can be the derivation of the word for 'comfortable' from the Arabic rāḥat:

|                   | /rāhæt/              | /rāhæt/             | /rāhæt/              | /rāhæt/  |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------|
| (NFVS)(3.11.3.3)  | —                    | a                   | a                    | a        |
| (NRVH)(4.1.2)     | —                    | a                   | a                    | a        |
| (Glt wk)(4.7.4)   | —                    | —                   | ∅                    | —        |
| (n-ep & V)(4.7.9) | —                    | —                   | —                    | nd       |
|                   | [raha t]<br>(formal) | [rahat]<br>(normal) | [raat]<br>(informal) | [rahand] |

In these derivations, the formal pronunciation [rāhæɾt] has undergone a block of three rules which has substituted the Arabic /ā h ā/ with the Azerbaijani /ā h æ/; the normal pronunciation has undergone five rules (i.e., the substitution rules employed in the derivation of the formal pronunciation, the rule of vowel shortening which has shortened /ā/ to [a], and the rule of root vowel harmony which has changed the /æ/ to the [a]); and the two informal pronunciations have undergone six rules (i.e., in addition to the three substitution rules, the vowel shortening and the vowel harmony employed in the derivation of the normal pronunciation, also either the rule of glottal weakening or n-epenthesis and final voicing).

5.17. Revealing examples of the nativization of loanwords in Azerbaijani seem almost inexhaustible. This can be inferred from the variety of the rules (presented in Chapter 4) that apply specifically to loanwords. Nevertheless, despite the great variety in the form of the nativized words, nativization seems to be sketchable in terms of the varieties of the rules involved.

5.18. As the examples presented in the preceding paragraphs suggest, nativization in Azerbaijani is achieved by three kinds of rules: (1) the prelexical rules of substitution (when the loan has segments significantly different from the corresponding segments in the Azerbaijani inventory of underlying segments), (2) the specific nativization rules, and (3) the general rules of Azerbaijani phonology. The nativization rules and the general rules apply to the underlying forms.

5.19. At the conclusion of this chapter it seems proper to say a word about another aspect of nativization -- the conformity of the borrowing language to a source language. Although nativization is largely the conformity of the loanwords to the sound system of the

borrowing language, it seems that in the process of historical development, at the same time that a language nativizes many loans, it itself is affected by loans. In phonology, among examples illustrating the conformity of the borrowing language to a source language, one is the adoption of underlying segments that fill holes in the inventory of the underlying segments of the borrowing language. Azerbaijani has gained some segments in this way, the most recent ones being the initial /ʒ/ and the voiceless velar stop /k/, as in [ʒurnal]</ʒurnal/< French journal 'journal' and [k(ʃ)las]</klas/< French classe 'classroom'.

#### Notes

We have examined only two works on nativization: (1) Saciuk (1969), (2) Nessly (1971).

1) Saciuk (1969) shows that the formatives of a language, on the basis of their underlying forms and the phonological rules applicable to them may belong to the native ([+Native]) or nonnative ([-Native]) categories. [+Native] and [-Native] formatives differ in that the [+Native] formatives are derived from the underlying forms by rules which apply to the great majority of the formatives of a language, whereas the [-Native] do not undergo all the applicable [+Native] rules, and undergo other ([-Native]) rules. The [+Native] and [-Native] formatives, however, share similarities, e.g., in underlying segment or segment sequences, and thus are opposed to yet another category of formatives which usually have different underlying segments and strings, and obey no [+Native] or [-Native] rules. These formatives belong to the [-Homogeneous] category, whereas the [+Native] and [-Native] formatives belong to the [+Homogeneous] category. Further, in addition to the primary stratal features, i.e., [Native] and [Homogeneous], there are secondary features which further specify the members of the [-Native] category. Finally, the primary stratal features differ from the secondary stratal features in that the former are interpreted by universal stratal marking conventions whereas the secondary stratal features are not.

The comprehensiveness of Professor Saciuk's theory of nativization with respect to its capacity to account for all possible shades of nativization is missing in our simpler account of nativization. We were constrained with the lack of resources such as access to speakers of different styles of Azerbaijani, relevant literature, etymological dictionaries, and previous studies on nativization in Azerbaijani (if there are any).

2) Nessly (1971) employs a theory of nativization similar to Saciuk (1969). Acknowledging Saciuk's precedence in the treatment of different surface realizations of a word, he focuses on the classification of the vowels used in English in accordance with their distance from the native English vowel qualities.

## CHAPTER VI

### CONCLUSION

The preceding chapters constitute an attempt to present a generative phonology of the Tabriz dialect of Azerbaijani.

The first chapter introduces Azerbaijani as a Turkic language. It places Azerbaijani in a rough sketch among Turkic languages, and after a brief reference to the literary dialect of Northern Azerbaijan, and a short discussion of the styles of speech, the chapter suggests that the Tabriz dialect is not the literary dialect of Southern Azerbaijan.

The second chapter is a critical examination of six previous works on Azerbaijani phonology. Out of the six works, except for one work sampling different Azerbaijani dialects, five describe a particular dialect -- the literary dialect of the Northern Azerbaijani or the Tabriz dialect. The examination of these works results in the formulation of some of the rules of Azerbaijani phonology such as the rules of the creation of the long vowels, diphthongization, and vowel sequences. Questions arising about the status of some segments, i.e., the [+high] stops and affricates leads to a somewhat different analysis of these segments in Chapter 3.

The third chapter posits the Azerbaijani underlying segments which do not greatly differ from the traditional phonemic inventory of Azerbaijani. The difference is in that here only two velar underlying stops, rather than two palatal and two velar stop phonemes, are posited. It is argued that the pair of the velar stops /k g/ suffice for the

derivation also of the palatal stops in Azerbaijani. It is also shown that the dental affricates [c ʒ] in some Azerbaijani dialects including the Tabriz dialect and the alveopalatal affricates [č ʝ] in some other dialects of Azerbaijani, including the Baku dialect, come from the same underlying segments /č ʝ/. Furthermore, it is shown that, despite the view expressed in some of the examined works to the effect that [x'] is not related to [k'], the voiceless palatal fricative is a realization of the voiceless palatal stop [k']. Concerning vowels, it is pointed out that in addition to the nine ordinary vowels /i ü ı ı u e ö o æ a/, their long counterparts, too, need to be posited as underlying segments. Finally, in this chapter, too, occasions arise for the formulation of a few other rules of Azerbaijani phonology, e.g., the Tabriz context free rule which accounts for the realization of the high stops and affricates in Tabriz speech, the stop spirantization, glide insertion, glide formation and vowel shortening, unrounding, fronting.

The fourth chapter presents perhaps the majority (but not all) of the important phonological rules accounting for the pronunciation of the Tabriz speech. Some of these rules, e.g., the rule of vowel harmony which accounts for both the backness and roundness in suffixes, the rule of vowel harmony accounting for backness and roundness harmony in loan roots, the rules of voicing dissimilation, mid vowel change, vowel raising, [j]-rounding, [n]-epenthesis, etc., are apparently presented for the first time. Other rules which are also described in the works on Azerbaijani phonology, in this chapter, are formulated on the basis of their motivation rather than the convenience of the pattern of exposition. E.g., instead of treating spirantization for each of the segments /č ʝ g/ separately and under separate entries for their word-medial and

word-final occurrences (as it is in the traditional descriptions), here there is a general rule of high consonant spirantization which accounts for the spirantization of not only /č ʃ g/, but also the palatal [k' g'], in the relevant environments. In the light of further investigations, this chapter can be extended to include other rules which we had to disregard at this time because of insufficient examples to support them. The rules presented in chapters two and three added to those in this chapter seem to include the basic rules of Azerbaijani phonology.

The fifth chapter sketches nativization in Azerbaijani. It views nativization as the inconspicuous occurrence of a loanword in a speech style of a borrowing language. It is suggested that in nativization in addition to the general rules of Azerbaijani phonology and the nativization rules already discussed mostly in chapter 4, there are involved also rules that replace the difficult foreign segments with native approximations. Most of these rules of substitution appear in this chapter. Here, it is also argued that there is almost always a direct relationship between the degree of nativization and the number of the rules involved in the derivation of a nativized loan. Finally, it is suggested that nativization affects also the borrowing language.



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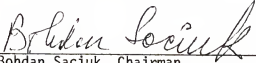
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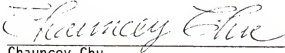
## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Born in 1935, Hosseingholi Salimi received the first four years of his elementary school education in his birthplace -- Tabriz. He completed his elementary education through college in Tehran, where he was granted a Licentiate Degree in English at Tehran University in 1960. During 1957-60 he served as a teacher at elementary schools in Tabriz (1957-58 while attending Tabriz University) and in Tehran (1958-60 while studying at Tehran University). Also he taught English in Tehran secondary schools (1960-67 while attending English classes and seminars for teachers of English held by the British Council and Iran-America Society in collaboration with the Ministry of Education). Through a Fulbright scholarship he attended the 1964 Summer School for Teachers of English as a Foreign Language at the Institute of Languages and Linguistics, Georgetown University. After receiving an M.A. in English from Atlanta University in 1972, he entered The Program in Linguistics at the University of Florida.

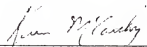
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This dissertation was submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the Program in Linguistics in the College of Arts and Sciences and to the Graduate Council, and was accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

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